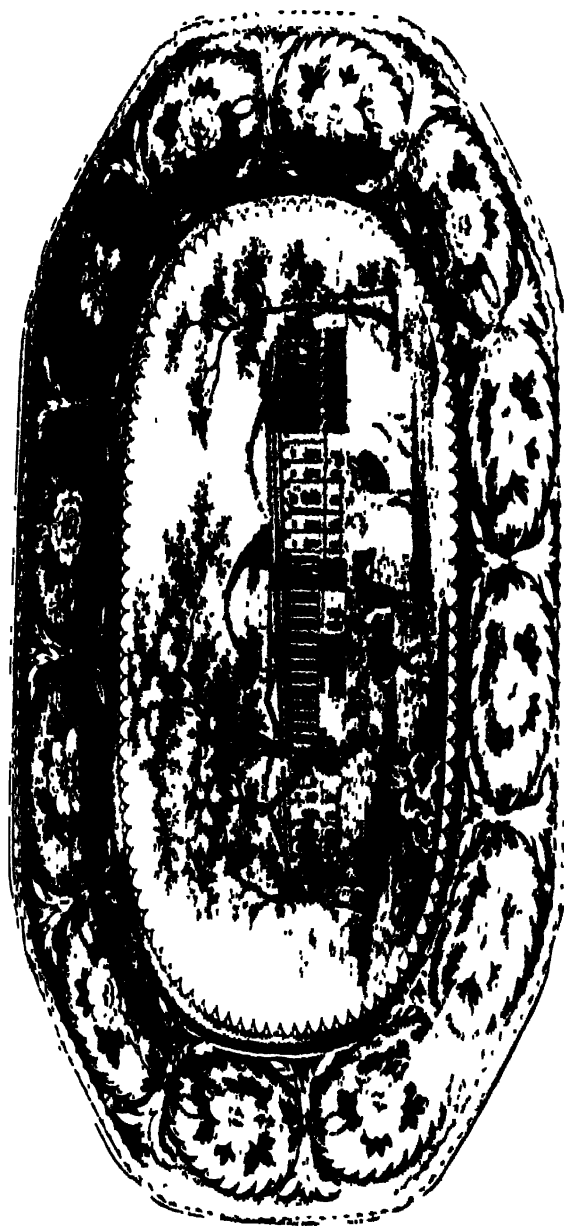


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THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

Ada Walker Camehl

*EARLY AMERICAN SCENES AND HISTORY
PICTURED IN THE POTTERY OF THE TIME*

*With a Supplementary Chapter describing the celebrated Collection
of Presidential China in the White House at Wash-
ington, D.C., and a complete Checking List
of known Examples of Anglo-
American Pottery*

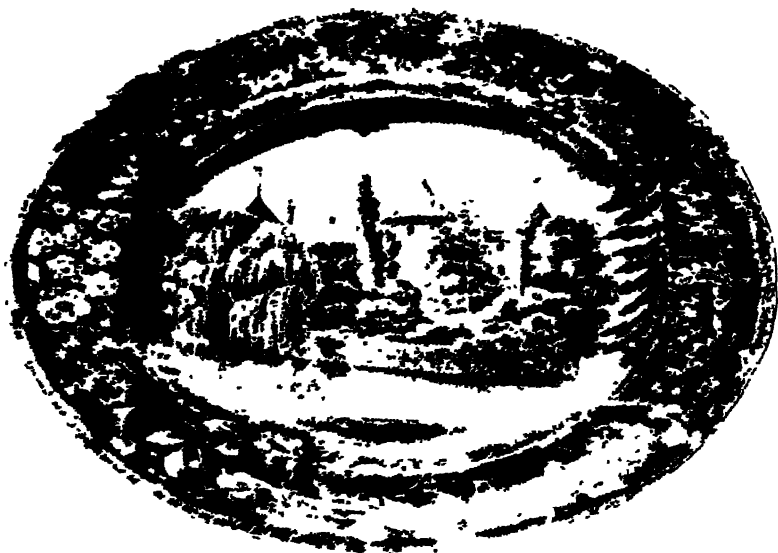
WITH OVER 200 ILLUSTRATIONS



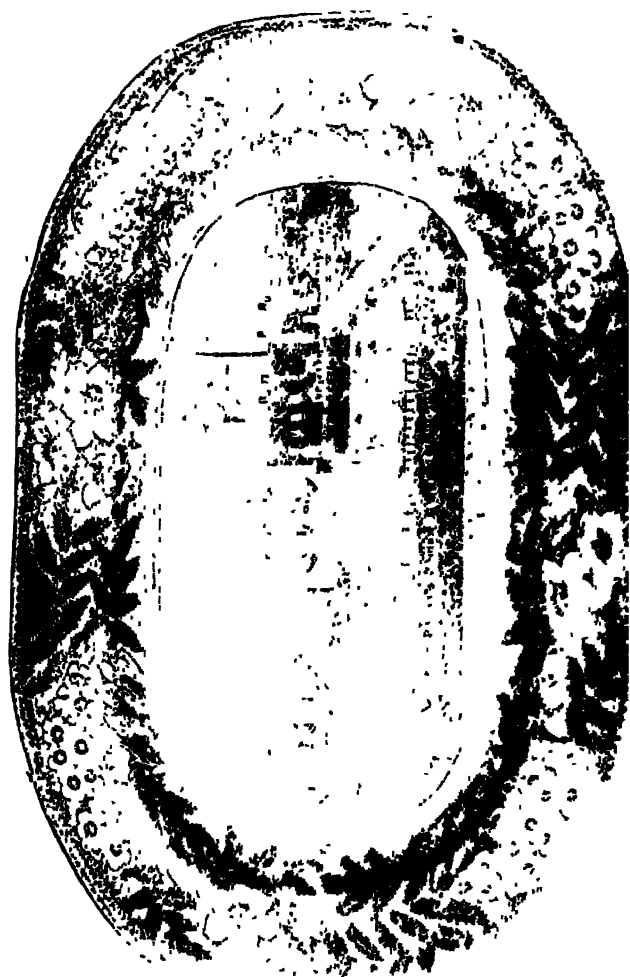
HALCYON HOUSE : NEW YORK



LAFAYETTE MOURNING AT TOMB
OF WASHINGTON
(H^{ood})



LA GRANGE—EAST VIEW
(Enoch Wood & Sons)



**DEDICATED
TO
MY HUSBAND
WHO MADE POSSIBLE THIS BOOK**

The man who will tell the story of a race, a nation, or a period according to the clothing, dwellings, utensils, and everyday art of it will be, I vow, the only true historian of them all, and vividly in his pages the age and people shall live again, though wars and dynasties and that elaborate comedy called politics be but the edges and binding of the book. So let us glorify our hobby, Hobbinal my friend. Is it not part of the true stuff of history? Don't we know that about the doings of eighteenth century English potters rests a nimbus of chronicle as well as of romance?

SIR J. H. YOXALL, M. P.



LAKE GEORGE. (*Wood*)



VIEW OF PARKWAY, NEW YORK CITY
J. B. JONES



PARK FALL, NEW YORK CITY
J. B. JONES

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the field of American history, the volumes I have consulted for the story of those years which Staffordshire pottery depicts, comprise a number too great to be severally enumerated. Old letters, diaries, journals, travels, biographies, files of newspapers and magazines, historical records of all kinds, have been pored over. Of notable value among them may be mentioned the daily journal of General Lafayette upon the occasion of his triumphal tour of the States in 1824-5, his keen observations continually comparing the state of the country at that period with its condition half a century earlier when he was a member of its Continental army. Of especial interest also have been Esther Singleton's "Story of the White House," Mrs. Taft's "Recollections of Full Years," and "Walks About Washington," by Francis E. Leupp and Lester G. Hornby.

In the field of ceramics, to those who before me have trod the alluring paths of "old blue" I owe a debt of gratitude: to Mrs. Alice Morse Earle, whose "China Collecting in America" set us upon the trail that leads to poverty of pocket and enrichment of joy and understanding, the book which perhaps has done most to arouse popular interest in those humble and oft-times despised pieces of common tableware which enshrine the annals of our pioneer years; to Dr. Edwin Atlee Barber, of Philadelphia, not only for the assistance which his comprehensive volumes have afforded, but also for the privilege of enriching my own work with the "Index of American Views" and with several photographs from his "Anglo-American Pottery"; to Mr. Robineau, editor of the *Old China Magazine*, for photographic plates and descriptions of historic wares; to the beautiful volume of Mr. R. T. Haines Halsey, upon the historical pottery of New York State; and to the valuable works of Mrs. N. Hudson Moore.

In addition to the public displays of historical pottery which

the Museums and Historical Societies of several of our large cities open to the student, many individual collections have been generously placed at the disposal of the author. My thanks are due first, to the former Mistress of the White House, Mrs. Wilson, for permission to have photographs made of the collection of presidential china which is on permanent exhibition in the lower corridor of the historic mansion; and to Colonel William W. Hart, former Commissioner of Public Buildings and Grounds in Washington, for his interest in my behalf. To Mr. George Kellogg, of Amsterdam, N. Y., my thanks are here acknowledged for the privilege of consulting his very complete collection of blue historical Staffordshire, as well as for many photographs of specimens, among them the valuable "New York from Weehawk" and the "New York from Brooklyn Heights" platters, and his rare series of State Arms plates; to Dr. Irving P. Lyon, of Buffalo, N. Y., for photographs of his splendid group of Liverpool pitchers; to Mrs. Francis W. Dickins, of Washington, D. C., for permission to photograph her extensive loan collection of historical pottery in the National Museum of that city; to Mr. Henry Leworthy, of Fredonia, N. Y., for photographs of his rare collection; to Mrs. William Garland, of California, for photographs of the Mrs. Hinman collection; to Mr. W. F. Shuck, of New Oxford, Pa., for photographs; and to Mrs. Randolph Barnes, of Buffalo, N. Y., for many hours of pleasurable and profitable discussion upon our chosen topic, as our individual collections grew.

I wish here also to thank Mr. Brayton L. Nichols, editor of *The Illustrated Buffalo Express*, for critical aid in my literary work, and for the privilege of using material which appeared in that paper; also, the Century Company of New York, for permission to incorporate in this volume material which first was published in *Saint Nicholas*.

ADA WALKER CAMEHL

Buffalo, 1916.

INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST EDITION

"ALL THIS OF POT AND POTTER"

About a century ago the pottery-makers of England, with that keen insight which has given to the British Empire the markets of the world, established a profitable branch of commerce with the Colonies and with the States of the new American Republic, by means of an appeal unique in the annals of trade. They decorated the pottery destined for the new market with faithful views taken from America itself, many of which, by the way, have been perpetuated in no other manner. They reproduced designs from volumes of contemporary prints known as "The Beauties of America," "Pictur-
esque Views on the Hudson River," etc., or, from original sketches out of the note books of English tourists returned from the "grand tour" of the new country. A few of the potters sent their own artists over the sea to make drawings with pen and pencil, sketches in oil, or impressions with the newly invented "camera-obscura" or "camera-lucida" (the beginnings of modern cameras), of scenery bordering upon the wonderful rivers, of mountain ranges, inland lakes, and of the far-famed cataract of Niagara. The artists gratified the civic

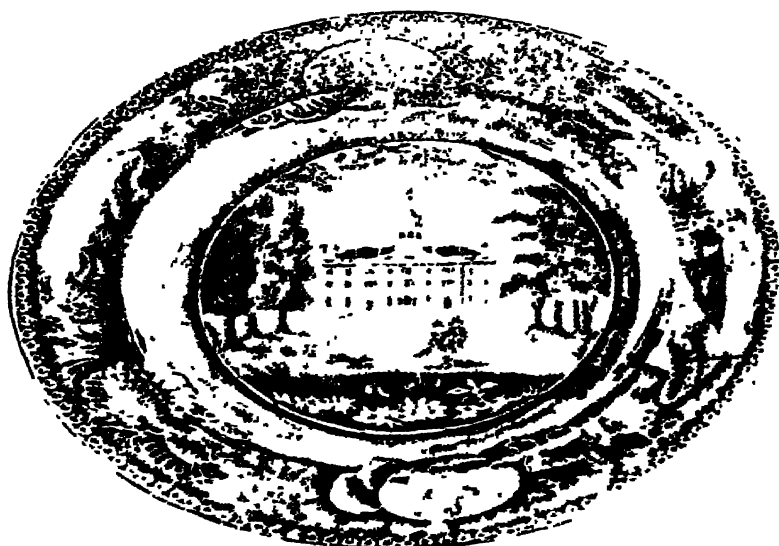
pride of the dwellers in the new cities by making pictures of their important buildings—state houses, colleges, almshouses, prisons, warehouses, inns, churches, theaters, mansions, etc., as well as of their world-famous enterprise, the “Grand Erie Canal.” The English potters did not hesitate to honor the national heroes of the new-born Republic, several of them turning out fanciful scenes of America’s pioneers; others, setting aside their own patriotic pride, used portraits of George Washington and of the naval heroes of the War of 1812, together with sketches of engagements fatal to British arms, of monuments raised to Colonial victories, and of Revolutionary battlefields whereon the patriot forces had routed the redcoats.

Benjamin Franklin’s portrait and his popular moral “Maxims” and “Proverbs” were eagerly appropriated for pottery display, while the famous visit of General Lafayette to America furnished still another series of decorations. One potter confined his output of American views almost entirely to a group of designs, now rare and valuable, illustrating the coats of arms of the original Thirteen States, and still others commemorated in clay the two marvels of early nineteenth century science—the steamboat and the locomotive.

The pictures thus secured, more than two hundred and fifty in number, were taken to the English pottery works, where, by means of the recently discovered proc-



LITTLE FALLS AT LUZERNE, HUDSON RIVER
(Claus, "Picturesque Views")



TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY
1862



MARYLENE UNIVERSITY
DOVER, N. H.
1862

ess of transfer printing from copper plates, they were stamped upon dinner sets, tea services, toilet sets, and all manner of useful ware. The potters of Liverpool were the first to put American views upon china, printing, shortly after the close of the War of the Revolution, the portraits of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin upon yellow jugs and mugs and punch bowls. A number of years later, the Liverpool potters produced an almost complete series of portraits of American naval heroes, together with illustrations of the principal engagements of the War of 1812.

By far the greater number of American views, however, went to the group of English hamlets in the county of Staffordshire, which numbers about a dozen and is still known as "The Potteries." Burslem, Cobridge, Hanley, Stoke-upon-Trent, Tunstall, are among the important pottery settlements whence ware was sent to America; while the names of potters which the collector most commonly finds upon the back of his specimens are Enoch Wood, Stevenson, Clews, Ridgway, Stubbs, Tams, Mayer, Adams, Jackson, and Green. A long list of pieces, however, are unmarked, and the makers unidentified. From the year 1783 when Enoch Wood set up his works at Burslem, until about 1850, almost all of the English pottery which was sent across the sea bore views obtained from America, the specimens which now survive being known as "Old Staffordshire." The name of

the potter, oft-times his initials alone, may be found upon the back of the pieces,¹ together with peculiar marks (a number of which are illustrated in the supplement to this volume) and scrolls encircling the title of the view upon the face. Every piece of the same set of dishes was not thus defined, hollow ware such as cups and saucers, sugar bowls and pitchers, being frequently found without a distinguishing mark, the name of the potter then being determined by the border design.

Attractive indeed are the border devices with which the American views are framed, nearly every potter customarily making use of one distinctive pattern. He might vary the scene within the frame, or he might borrow some sketch from a neighboring potter, but the border around it, as a rule remained peculiarly his own, thereby making of it to-day a ready means of identification. The border designs, as a study of the illustrations reveals, are composed of graceful combinations of sea-shells and mosses, roses and scrolls, acorns and oak leaves, grapes and vines, or of fruit, birds and flowers in delightful arrangement. Animals peculiar to the tropics appear in one series, the American eagle perches proudly among the scrolls of another, while one or two of the more intricate patterns bear marked resemblance to the borders found on Flemish tapestries of the Renaissance, or encircling the charming terra-cotta *Madonnas* of Della Robbia.

¹ See supplementary chapter B.

The rich blue color so greatly admired, which until very recent years has been impossible of reproduction, was first adopted in England early in the nineteenth century, and was an echo of the Oriental blues, as well as of the Dutch Delft, which, owing to Holland's earlier trade facilities with the Orient, presented the first reproduction of that color in Europe. Until about the year 1830, at which time printing upon pottery became cheapened by the process of lithography, blue was almost the sole color in use in the Staffordshire potteries. The color was cheap and flowed easily, and its density hid from view the imperfections in ware and workmanship—blisters in the glaze and marks of the triangles used to separate the pieces in the kiln, marks which may still be discovered upon all pieces of flat ware made in Staffordshire during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. It must be borne in mind that the beautiful old blue dishes so greatly coveted to-day are not of fine material, nor of skilled manufacture, their present value lying in their decorative quality, and in the pictured memorials of early America which they perpetuate—memorials which at the present time are accorded an important place among the authentic documents of history. As the years went by, however, the rich deep blue was followed with paler tints—light blue, pink, green, mulberry, purple, gray, and also black—until at last, just before the Centennial Exposition of 1876, the

event which proved to be the rebirth of the Art spirit in the United States, the common tableware of our forefathers had faded to the dull monotony of white.

When and how did the pictured English pottery find its way to the United States? Near the end of the eighteenth century, soon after close of the Revolutionary War, "sailor-pitchers" and punch bowls made in Liverpool were brought to these shores by sea-captains and sailor-boys and were presented as keepsakes to home friends. By reason of the graceful forms and of the verses and portraits printed upon them, verses breathing of homely sentiment and patriotism, and portraits of celebrated patriot heroes, they were lovingly cherished by New England housewives. About 25 years ago, when keen interest in the preservation of historic china had its beginning, there was scarcely a New England family with sea-faring ancestors whose chimney shelf or corner dresser was not graced with one or more yellow jug or bowl of Liverpool.

The more gayly hued pottery of Staffordshire manufacture was, until as late as the middle of the nineteenth century, shipped to American merchants in large quantities and purchased for daily use by our forefathers and their china-loving dames. They admired the rich colors and the quaint forms, and, as they sipped their spiced brew or fragrant tea, they found added pleasure in looking upon the faces of their beloved heroes, in

living over in imagination the great battles, and in marveling anew at the wonderful achievements of peace, depicted upon the specimens before them.

The prices given for the imported ware were so small, from a six-pence to a shilling being the cost of a single plate, that the amounts paid at the present time to possess one of the surviving pieces would amaze our thrifty forefathers as well as astonish the trade-seeking potters who turned them out. Liverpool jugs bearing the portraits of Washington or of the heroes and sea battles of 1812 are worth thirty, fifty, and more dollars, while one hundred dollars are frequently given for a blue plate or platter or pitcher printed with some historic design. A few years ago, the sum of \$290 was given for a blue plater picturing "New York from Brooklyn Heights"; at a recent sale, \$1000 was paid for a Pennsylvania Arms plate; and not long ago a platter of the "New York from Weehawk" design brought \$1225, the highest price yet paid for a specimen of old Staffordshire.

It may be asked, where are examples of Staffordshire historical ware to be obtained at the present time? It is a surprising fact that search for pieces of English pottery with American views in the country where it was manufactured fails to discover any specimen, practically all of it having been shipped to the market for which it was created. In this country, a large number of pieces which have survived the changes a century has

brought to the rapidly developing nation are carefully gathered into the public Museums or Historical Societies of the great cities, or else they are cherished in the no less valuable private collections of china-loving individuals. But there yet remains in country homes throughout the eastern states, in the oft-times careless possession of descendants of original owners, a harvest sufficient to tempt the admirer of "old blue," to lure him into that fascinating quest which *may* be as futile as the search for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, but which has for reward, in addition to the specimens secured, a fuller understanding of the formative period of his own nation.

What joy can compare with that of passing a long summer day in the country, driving with horse and carriage or swifter motor (the halcyon days of the spacious tin peddler's cart, which served the earliest in the field of china collecting, alas! are gone), over sun-baked dusty hills and through winding, shadowy valleys, stopping at each low-browed dwelling in quest of old blue china? A debt of gratitude is due the oldtime potters of England for making and sending to these shores such quantities of attractive ware that even yet stray specimens are hidden away under dusty eaves, upon top pantry shelves, or on the high mantels of dark parlors, waiting to be peered out and gathered.

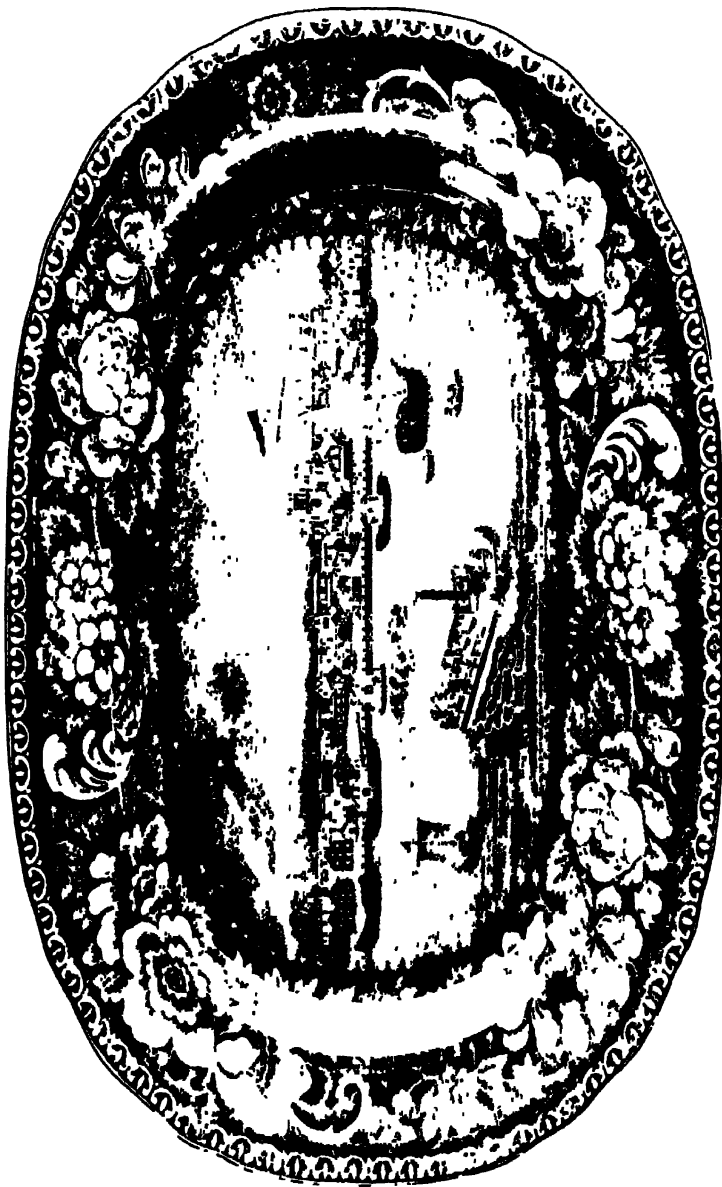
Uncertain as a lottery are the rewards of a china hunt.

One may, after knocking at the door of some "likely" farmhouse, be shown, in place of the "old blue dishes, pewter, or any other old things" humbly asked for, a hair wreath set in a deep gilt frame, or a bunch of faded worsted flowers—memorials of another more recent "Art" period of our history. Or, the seeker of historic relics may make his way to the back door (the true hunter of old china never approaches the front) through the pigs and hens of the barnyard, only to be informed by the woman who opens it, "Old blue dishes? Land, yes! I had stacks of them, but when they got broken I just pounded them up and fed them to the hens!" As he picks his way to the gate he may take a long look at the poultry, until there rises before his vision rows of Easter eggs born into the world bearing the sad love story of Chang and his sweetheart Koong-Shee, or else the benign features of Franklin or of the Father of His Country; surely, "Cæsar dead and turned to clay . . ." has a parallel in the present.

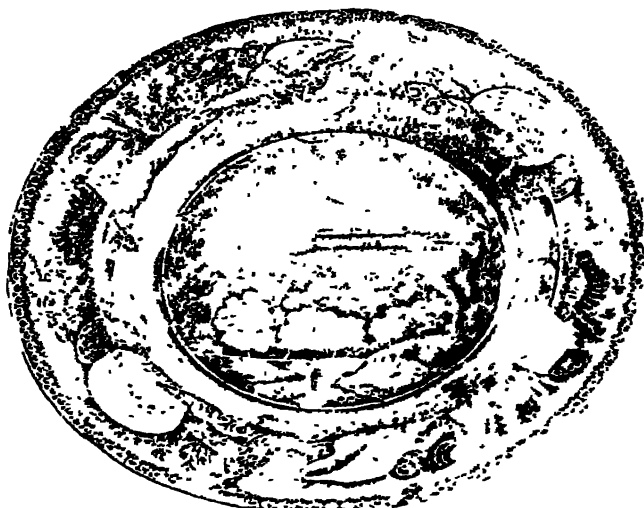
Then the unexpected "finds"! Setting out in search of a Willow platter which neighborhood rumor whispered was "in the low white house on the hill yonder, a part of her grandmother's wedding set," how keen the pleasure to discover in place of the more common pattern, a rich blue platter inscribed, "Landing of General Lafayette,"—and how eager the desire to hasten home with the prize and search for the story it records. The

day we came upon the large vegetable dish with the aqueducts, the canal boats and the four familiar faces . . . our interest in the sluggish ditch had been but a dull one until then. And the big-winged frigates so fiercely fighting upon the yellow jugs, Penn and his Indians, and Columbus, the battle-monuments and the buildings of the early cities—how they sharpened our appetites for hitherto dry facts, and awakened an impulse to unravel and follow to their source the bright threads of this alluring and gayly patterned “stuff of history.”

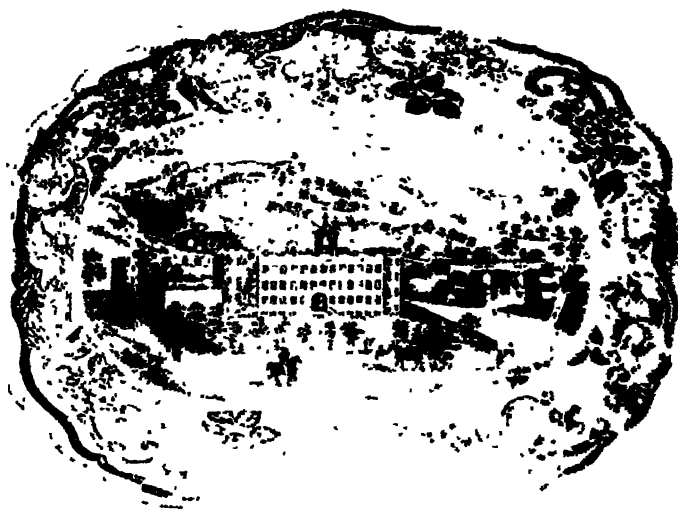
The knowledge of a bygone period of our nation's history acquired from the pleasant study of old blue china suggests to the mind a comparison with the present era, and tempts a vision, “far as human eye can see,” of that which lies before. “We live in a most extraordinary age,” remarked Daniel Webster a century ago—words frequent on men's tongues to-day. For, as a present-day historian observes, “Less cumbered by old traditions than the elder nations, and with a vast continent in front of her, America has marched along the new roads of history with a rapidity and an energy for which there is no precedent.” From the twelve million inhabitants of Webster's time the Republic has increased to a population of one hundred millions, and the flag which the century-old tableware pictures displaying thirteen stars, now proudly flies nearly half a hundred. To-day, in place of the Mississippi River or the “Shining



CITY OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN
Early Stern-Wheel Steamboat in Harbor. (*Unknown Maker*)



PINE ORCHARD HOUSE IN THE CATSKILLS
(*Enoch Wood*)



PENITENTIARY AT ALLEGHENY, NEAR PITTSBURGH
(*Chen, "Picture of the Penitentiary"*)

Mountains" bounding the western territory of the nation, the dwellers in Alaska, in Hawaii, in the islands of the Far East and of the tropical seas are, like the early settlers upon the Mississippi banks, "fellow citizens and neighbors of those who cultivate the hills of New England." Almost all of the stately buildings displayed upon the old tableware have been swept away by the growth of the great cities, the few which have been spared being at the present time either lost to view as the kernels of imposing modern structures, or else their proportions are dwarfed by neighboring tower-like piles.

Science has taken the past hundred years for her special field, and has marked its pathway with such countless milestones of achievement that the clumsy and fear-inspiring little steamboats and locomotives which the blue plates present as the wonders of a century ago have been at the present time succeeded by the swift moving leviathans of sea and land; and the telephone, the wireless telegraph, the automobile, the submarine, have, each in turn, been cause for marvel . . . until, crowning all marvels, the boon denied Icarus of old, navigation of the air, is a commonplace to those who live to-day. Obsolete as the primitive yewbows of yeoman archers, or as the cumbersome armor and lances of mediæval knights, is the art of warfare as it is manifested in the old-china battle-scenes of the Revolution and of the sea engagements of 1812, . . . a vivid con-

trast to the vast European campaigns which at the period of writing are claiming the attention of the world. These century-old sketches of the one time "thin, red lines" of gayly uniformed British soldiery defiling up Bunker Hill, for hand-to-hand combat with the enemy, and of *Old Ironsides* slowly and laboriously kedging her way out of the enemy's reach, have been succeeded by modern photographs, and moving-picture films, of parallel trenches filled with gray-clad soldiers losing or winning battles sometimes without a sight of the enemy; of long-range guns, airplanes, and submarine destroyers.

To the western Republic, the hundred years of peace which have been recently concluded have brought such unexampled growth and prosperity that to it as to a "Promised Land" turn the hopes of the folk of Old World Empires, who within its borders seek and find that liberty which was so hardly won by their forefathers—America's pioneers.

As to the place which the future holds for the United States, the prophecy spoken by an early and far-seeing citizen of the Republic is one with the convictions of those who behold her at the present time entering upon a "new road of history": "Humanly speaking, no circumstances can prevent these United States from becoming eventually, and at no distant period, a great and powerful nation, influencing and controlling the other sovereignties of the world."

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PITTSBURGH, PA
Primitive Craft on River
(Cleres, "Picturesque Views")



SHANNONDALE SPRINGS, VIRGINIA
(Jackson)



WASHINGTON AND FRANKLIN EXAMINING A MAP OF
THE UNITED STATES
("Map" Pitcher)

A NOTE TO THE READER

This book does not undertake to cover with thoroughness the entire field of blue china, for interest in the collecting of pottery, like to that in the gathering together of other groups of objects, is at the present time, with rare exceptions, many-sided and highly specialized. Each collector has his particular viewpoint, his own choice of objects of the chase. One person, for example, may select his specimens with an eye to a display of the work peculiar to several countries; another may confine his fancy to the output of one nation alone; still another may make pastes, glazes, or decorative motifs, his study; while perhaps the largest number will, like Charles Lamb and Horace Walpole, yield to the fascinating lure for the simple reason that "china's the passion of their souls," and will secure whatever pieces opportunity brings to hand.

The author of the present volume has confined her interest not only to "Blue China," as the title suggests, but to the particular wares known to collectors as Staffordshire historical pottery. And this interest has been further specialized upon the history and topography of America. For, in the process of forming a collection, the fact was discovered that this group of English pottery is not only a valuable record of the American country and cities as they appeared a century ago, but it is at the same time a surprisingly complete history of the first three centuries of our national life. Supplementing

A NOTE TO THE READER

these annals, there is presented in this volume an illustrated chapter describing the tableware which was used from the earliest times in the Executive Mansion at Washington, by our presidents and their families, together with a brief story of the Mansion itself. And, for the benefit of the collector, the Checking List of American Views compiled by Dr. Edwin Atlee Barber, together with a short explanation of the Staffordshire potters' marks, is included.

There are, in addition, outside of the historical views which make up the main body of this volume, other important groups of prints that are of concern to the general collector of Staffordshire wares, for example, the Dr. Syntax, the Don Quixote, the Sir David Wilkie, and the ever-interesting Willow Pattern, series. For those whose collections may embrace specimens of these designs, a third Supplementary Chapter will be found, devoted to a short exposition of their stories. Another large and attractive group of prints of which mention should be made, as it claims the attention of certain American collectors, is that portraying Scriptural subjects. Specimens of these illustrations were put out by nearly all of the prominent Staffordshire potters of the period under consideration, and Dr. Barber enumerates more than 60 titles of this class. The borders vary with the potter, and the colors range from the familiar deep blue through the paler shades of the later Staffordshire period.

Still other fields remain for the American collector of old Staffordshire. One of them includes views of countries other than the United States and Canada, for at

A NOTE TO THE READER

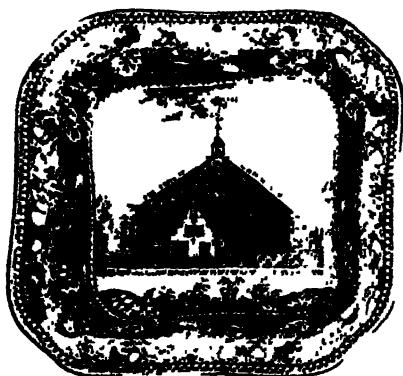
the same time that English artists were sent to these shores for sketches, many beautiful views of English castles, cathedrals, and other important buildings in their own island, were adopted by the potters. Foreign fields were likewise visited for decorative material—Italy, France, India, even the “Gold Coast of Africa,” contributing to the demand. Masonic emblems or current political cartoons as decorations make an appeal to some collectors, old-copper- and silver-luster tea-sets form charming displays, while Liverpool pitchers and Toby-jugs, or the quaint mantel-ornaments of Staffordshire manufacture, such as dogs, bears, cows, peasant-figures, flower-festooned cottages, etc., etc., have a distinct charm and fascination for the old-china lover.

ADA WALKER CAMEHL.

PART I
THE COUNTRY AND THE CITIES OF EARLY
AMERICA



CITY OF QUEBEC
(Unknown Maker)

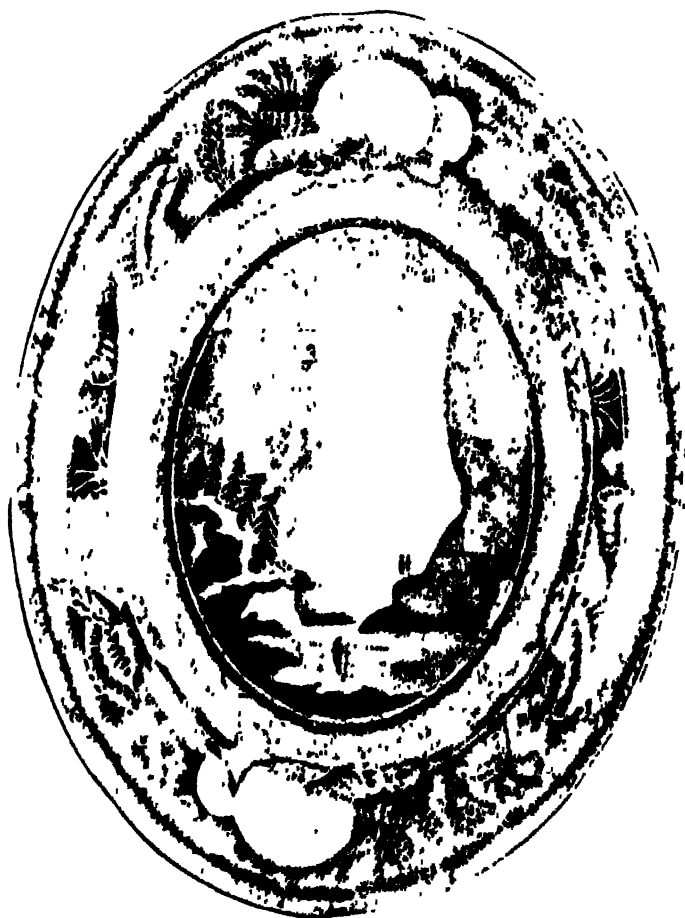


DUTCH CHURCH AT ALBANY,
1715-1806



MEDALLION HEADS ON
COVER IN COMMEMORA-
TION OF ERIE CANAL

(Stevenson)



FALLS OF MONTMORENCY, NEAR QUEBEC

(Wood)

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

CHAPTER I

A TOUR OF THE LAND

“**I** CAN never tire my eyes in looking at such lovely vegetation, so different from ours . . . the herbage like April in Andalusia . . . the trees are as unlike ours as night from day, as are the fruits, the herbs, the stones, and everything, . . . and I feel the most unhappy man in the world not to know them. The mountains and islands seem to be second to none in the world; . . . there is much gold, the Indians wear it as bracelets on the arms, on the legs, in the ears and nose, and round the neck, . . . flocks of parrots conceal the sun.” These are among the expressions with which Columbus sought to make known to the Spanish sovereigns the beauty, the richness, and the strangeness of the land he had taken possession of in their name. Americus Vesputius, who visited the new world a few years later than Columbus, and whose name by strange chance remained with it, noted its “altogether delightful” climate, its many hills, lakes, rivers and forests, as well as the vari-

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

ous species of wild animals and the numerous parrots with which it abounded, together with the gold which the natives told him was so abundant it was little esteemed. "In short," he concludes his narrative, "if there is an earthly paradise in the world, without doubt it must be not far from this place."

True to these conceptions of primitive America, which long continued to color the imaginations of Europeans, are the fanciful scenes (illustrated in a later chapter) wherewith the Staffordshire potters sought to picture pioneer incidents of American history. In them, unfamiliar trees and shrubs are introduced, together with Indians gowned in paint and feathers and adorned with golden ornaments, against backgrounds of imaginary forest or mountain scenery. Parrots appear in a border device, another border presenting flowers and animals supposed to be native to the little known wilderness regions.

With the passing of the years and the increase of ocean travel, a truer and somewhat more extended knowledge of the new world became diffused throughout the countries of Europe. Many people, for one cause or another of discontent, abandoned their homes in order to adventure others in America; until the seventeenth century saw the Atlantic seacoast from Canada to Florida dotted with Old-World settlements. French adventurers and missionaries came into the region of the

A TOUR OF THE LAND

Saint Lawrence River; English Puritans settled the shores of Massachusetts Bay; traders from Holland made homes upon Manhattan Island; English planters sought the fertile hillsides of Virginia; and Spain sent her knights to Florida in quest of the Fountain of Eternal Youth.

Land companies sprang up in Europe, whose business it was to exploit their broad, and oft-times vague, American acres, and to direct to them departing groups of emigrants. But even after the political independence of the new country had been achieved, ignorance of the conditions there to be met with continued widespread. A curious French volume of the year 1803, entitled, "The Pros and Cons, or Advice for Those who Intend to go to the United States of America, Followed by a description of Kentucky and Genesee, two of the most important settlements of the New World," was written, the author states, to aid intending settlers, "all of whom lack definite directions." "The United States of America," he begins, "are not yet entirely cultivated, centuries will probably roll away before they will be." He then proceeds to divide the territory into three regions. The first, nearest to the cities and the coast, is best cultivated, "with farms so close together that it seems a continuous village"; the second, as one goes into the interior, is less cultivated, with villages small and far apart, "a saw mill and a flour mill and a few houses there form-

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

ing an important settlement." To the west of these regions he recounts a third—a wilderness of forest and stream recently inhabited by savage tribes who have "now departed to the Great Lakes and the immense River of Mississippi," beyond which the author's knowledge, or imagination, does not venture to stray. He recites the advantages of the many rivers—the Hudson, carrying the products of New York State to the seaboard; the Delaware, bearing its "multitude of vessels" laden with the wealth of Pennsylvania to the cities at its mouth; the Ohio, entering the Mississippi with the produce of Kentucky to exchange for "the piastres of the Spaniards" at New Orleans. The "Endless Mountains" (Alleghany range), he states, divide the United States into two natural parts and are its backbone, even as the Apennines are of Italy. The East is more populous, and the West is where the new settlements are located—one of these settlements being toward the south, "at the rear of Virginia," and called Kentucky; the other, toward the north, "at the rear of Pennsylvania," and known as the Genesee country (then controlled by the Holland Land Company). The cession of Louisiana to France by Spain, he declares, has much alarmed the United States by threatening to cut off the navigation of the Ohio River. He closes his interesting volume with a *Salve* to the great rivers and lakes of the New World, and the hope for those who betake themselves

A TOUR OF THE LAND

thither, "May they leave in Europe their vices and their misery and carry with them only their virtues."

Maps of the United States were outlined for the further convenience of prospective settlers, and as this was the period when English potters were utilizing American subjects for decoration, one of them was printed upon a set of Liverpool pitchers. The design presents an oval framing the section of the world then known as the new Republic of the United States. The Atlantic coast, though heavily lined, is uncertain in detail, and names of cities and towns are thickly printed against it. The northernmost region is Canada, bounded by the chain of the Great Lakes. A number of States are designated, and the indefinite region to the west stretching from Canada on the north to the Gulf of Mexico in the south is marked "Louisiana." "Liberty," of course, is present, in the form of her contemporary European prototype—a female figure holding aloft a pointed cap. She is here represented calling the attention of George Washington to the map, the first President standing by her side with the inevitable scroll, presumably the Declaration of Independence, in his hand; while Fame floats above them upon a cloud, bearing a wreath marked "Washington," and trumpeting his glory to the world. Benjamin Franklin, who assisted in the achievement of independence and who, like Washington, was a well-known figure in Europe, is seated upon the opposite side

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

of the map, an open book in his hand and History, personified as a woman, behind his chair. A detail of historic interest is the pine-tree flag displaying upon its starry field the newly chosen Seal of the Republic, both flag and seal being described in a later chapter.

So thoroughly did the early nineteenth-century artists perform their task of securing sketches of American scenery for reproduction upon Staffordshire pottery, that it is quite possible by means of the decorations (a small number only of which are presented in this and the preceding chapter) to enable the student of our early history to make a fairly complete tour of the land, and to look upon it as it appeared a century ago. Starting at the northernmost extremity of the country as it is portrayed upon the map pitcher, the city of Quebec is first displayed upon a plate, seated, as at the present day, upon her mighty citadel of rock, the original Lower Town of her French founder, Champlain, huddled at the cliff's base and washed by the broad Saint Lawrence River. A yellow jug of Liverpool manufacture pictures an imaginary death-scene of the British General Wolfe who, in the year 1759, having successfully scaled the rock, expired upon the Plains of Abraham at the moment of the victory of his troops over the French—the battle which gave Quebec into the hands of the English. One artist went out to the far-famed falls of Montmorenci, a few miles above Quebec, and in his sketch

A TOUR OF THE LAND

one looks upon the imposing cataract as it appeared before its volume had been reduced, by mechanical use, to the trickling stream which meets the eye of the visitor of to-day.

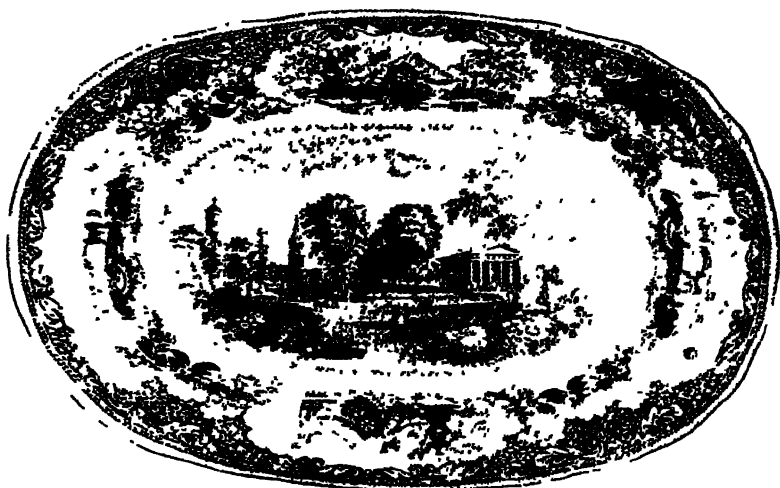
Passing southward, the mountain ranges, country roadways, and log houses of primitive New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts, are displayed in a variety of sketches; a fort in Rhode Island is pictured; while a separate chapter records the appearance of the city of Boston. Examining the beautiful Pittsfield platter-scene, the beholder pauses to learn its story. In Revolutionary times, it is recorded, a primitive Meeting House stood upon the site of the white church facing the Common, whose pastor was the Reverend Thomas Allen, an ardent patriot who had served as chaplain to the American army under Washington. Upon the Sabbath morning following his return to Pittsfield (so the story goes), Parson Allen entered his pulpit, clad in Continental uniform concealed beneath his gown. He began his sermon, but his zeal for his country's cause becoming so overpowering he soon threw aside his robe and displayed himself to his people in army uniform. He stepped down from his pulpit and led the men of the congregation to the Common in front of the church, and under the elm tree he formed them into the first detachment of Berkshire Minutemen. The elm became therefrom one of the historic trees of America; "from

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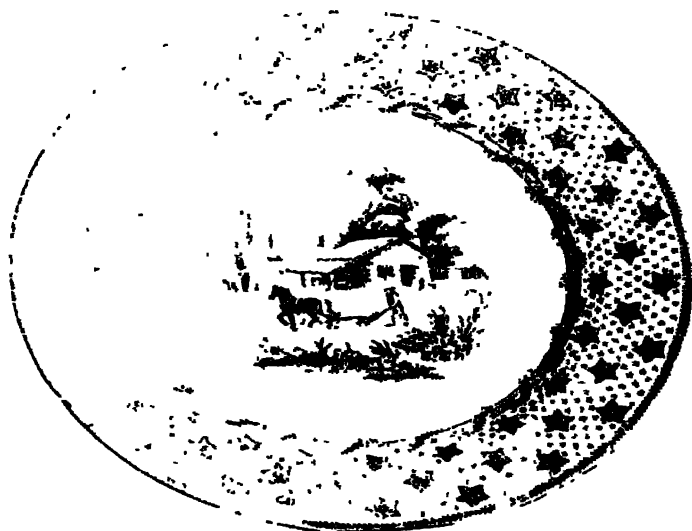
Greylock to Monument Mountain," the saying ran, there being no inanimate thing "so revered and venerable." The tree may be seen in the illustration as it appeared about the year 1825, after a fence had been built around it to preserve it from destruction as a hitching post for horses. In 1861, it was felled by a lightning stroke and its sound wood was made into souvenirs; at the present time, in the center of the beautiful, elm-shaded park of the city of Pittsfield, a sun-dial erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution marks the historic spot where the old elm stood. To the right of the white church, which is the First Congregational edifice, the illustration presents the old Town Hall, and at its left the First Baptist Church, with the Berkshire Hotel by its side.

A view of the town square of New Haven, Connecticut, printed in the lighter colors of a later period of Staffordshire potting, exhibits Yale College, together with the Connecticut State House. In contrast to the interest displayed by the old-time artists in the halls of Harvard which resulted in numerous pottery souvenirs, Yale College, though second only to the Boston institution in age, appears in few decorations only, the work of less important potters.

The Hudson River affords a delightful imaginary excursion possible to be made by means of the many illustrations of its beauties which exist upon pottery,



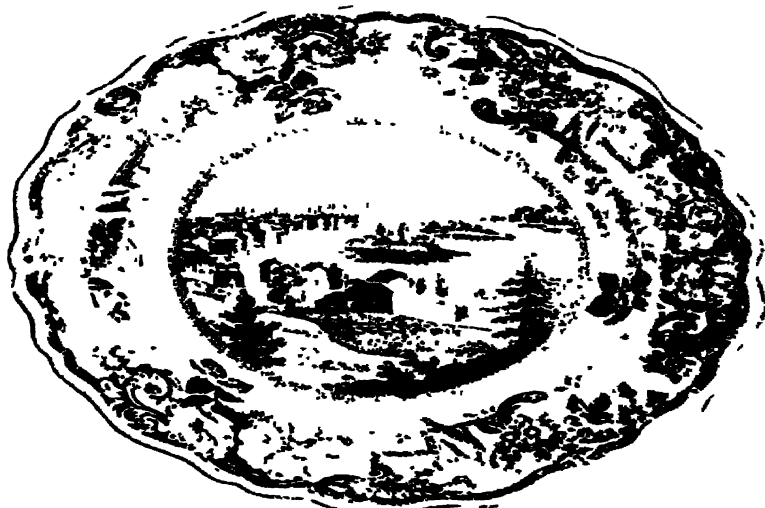
YALE BUILDINGS—STATE HOUSE, NEW HAVEN
(*Unknown Maker*)



LOG CABIN
W. H. Harrison Campaign
(*J. Ridgway*)



HEADWATERS OF THE JUNIATA RIVER, PA.
(W. Adams & Sons)



TROY ON THE HUDSON
(Clies, "Picture-que Views")

A TOUR OF THE LAND

delightful by reason of the scenery and historical associations, as well as for the presence, rare in our land, of the legendary folk who people its banks. One English potter, James Clews, decorated a set of plates in various colors with views copied from water color sketches of Hudson River scenery painted by W. G. Wall and reproduced in England in a volume called "The Hudson River Portfolio." Upon the back of each plate, printed in a scroll, is the legend, "Picturesque Views of the Hudson River." The border of the series, a spray of rose branches with parrots perched upon them, is one of the most graceful to be found. It is of interest to know that in the year 1836, some time after these plates were printed, James Clews came to the United States and engaged in potting in Indiana, but being unsuccessful he remained but a short time and returned to end his days in England. Enoch Wood also printed a series of Hudson River views in deep blue color, with his famous sea-shell border.

Setting out from New York, the illustrations of which another chapter presents, the first view in the Hudson River series is of West Point. High on a plateau above the river and crowned with lofty mountain peaks, may be seen the small group of buildings which was the nucleus of the present Military Academy, founded in 1802. Newburgh is portrayed as a small village on the river bank, appearing no doubt as it did

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on the evening when General Lafayette stepped ashore on his famous visit in 1824, and was driven through its muddy, torch-lighted streets to the Orange Hotel where impatient guests awaited his tardy arrival. One may possibly discover in the picture the balcony upon which the French General presented himself in order to quell the tumult of the crowds below.

The traveler presently enters the enchanted region of the Catskills, the legendary abode of the ancient squaw whose duty it is forever to open the doors of day and night, to hang up new moons in the sky, and to cut the old ones into stars. In these oft-pictured wilderness heights dwells Manitou, the great Indian Spirit, who in the form of a bear was wont to lead the redmen a chase through the forests—and hark! Is not the vague rumbling sound reverberating through the valleys the echo of the ninepins of Hendrick Hudson and his somber crew? A famous inn situated high in the mountains, Pine Orchard House, gleams white against the dusky pines, as one continues up the river, and here and there along the banks picturesque mills and villages and mountain passes are, by means of the illustrations, opened to his view.

Albany, the oldest city in the Union, boasts a state Capitol, fine churches, and a harbor filled with busy shipping; one decoration shows a passage to the city from the islands made in a ferry boat called a "horse's

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back," carrying both animals and men. Albany at the period of the imaginary tour has a population of about 16,000 people, and is one of the most important commercial cities in the United States, all western produce entering by way of the newly-built Erie Canal, and shipped thence to eastern ports, twenty-four steamboats plying the river between Albany and New York. A covered vegetable dish, whose medallion portraits of the four men whom the English potters commonly associated with the Erie Canal place it among the memorials of that enterprise, presents upon the surface of its interior the Dutch church of Albany, one of the seven churches of the country to be perpetuated in pottery decoration. The original edifice was erected in the year 1652, a second in 1655, around which the walls of the third structure, here shown, were carried up and enclosed without disturbing the old edifice. This illustration is of importance as presenting one of the earliest types of church building in America, its square proportions and its pyramidal roof topped with a belfry contrasting with the rectangular bodies and tall slender spires which characterize many of the later models. This structure resembles in its outlines the "Old Ship Meeting House," a co-temporary which still stands at Hingham, Massachusetts. The interior of the Albany church was gayly painted and ornamented, with a pulpit of polished Dutch oak. Low galleries, to which the

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men were relegated, lined three sides of the interior, and a bell rope hung down in the center aisle which when not in use was wound round a post set in the center for the purpose. Rich stained glass windows displayed the arms of eminent Dutch families, members of whom were accustomed to bring hot bricks or portable stoves to keep their feet warm during the long winter service, the men sitting with hats on their heads and their hands in muffs. Deacons went around with collection bags on the end of long poles, to which little bells were attached, their tinkling arousing any sleepers and preventing drowsiness from being an excuse for failure to contribute. The structure was demolished in 1806, much of the material being put into the Second Dutch Reformed Church.

When in the year 1824, Lafayette looked upon the town of Troy with its 8,000 inhabitants, appearing much as it is pictured upon the plate, he exclaimed in astonishment, "What! Has this city risen from the earth by enchantment!" For here it was that he, in Revolutionary times, with difficulty could find a cup of milk and a bit of Indian bread at the two or three humble cabins which then composed the settlement. The northernmost of the Hudson River series of sketches presents the village of Luzerne, among the Adirondacks near the river's source, while, continuing northward.



CITY OF ALBANY

(Wood)

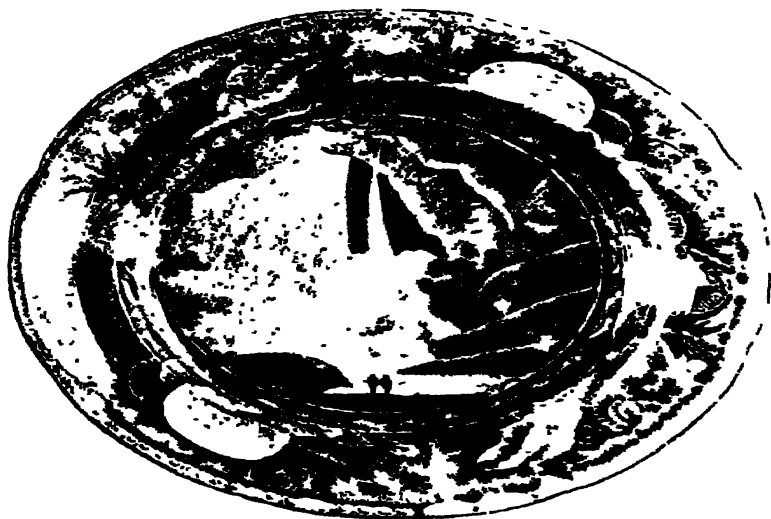


TABLE ROCK, NIAGARA FALLS
(*Wood*)



PRIMITIVE FERRY AT ALBANY
RENSSELAER ISLAND
(*Unknown Maker*)

A TOUR OF THE LAND

Lake George may be seen—a shining mirror framed in wooded hills.

Several charming bits of New Jersey and Pennsylvania river and mountain scenery may be seen upon specimens of old pottery. The Falls of Passaic, on a sugar bowl, were famous for their beauty a century ago; very lovely, too, is the view of the headwaters of the Juniata River, the stream which flows so peacefully through southern Pennsylvania. In the distance rise the rugged peaks of the "Endless Mountains," in the foreground may be seen the trees and flowers native to the region—and, may not the tourist with bundle slung over shoulder, crossing the rustic bridge, be the very traveler from England who, struck with the charm of the spot, set down his burden for awhile and added this scene to his sketch book? Pittsburgh is presented as a row of low buildings bordering the banks at the confluence of the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, with two primitive vessels sailing past the town. In the nearby village of Allegheny is the Penitentiary, an imposing structure for so early a date. When Lafayette visited Pittsburgh, about the time these pictures were made, it had a population of 8,000 and the French party were much interested in examining the manufacturing plants for which Pittsburgh was already famous. Among the objects presented to Lafayette were some

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mirrors made in this city which he declared equal to any produced in France. Continuing southward, Virginia landscapes of rolling hills and substantial plantation homes are spread out to view, while the attractions of the cities of Baltimore and Washington are set forth in separate chapters.

Before the days of railroads, few tourists made the long and difficult and oft-times dangerous journey into the sparsely settled regions of the far South and West, sections now known as the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, Michigan, Kentucky, and the valleys of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers; for this reason, a less number of pictured views of these localities are to be found. The cities of Richmond, Charleston, Savannah, New Orleans, Columbus, and Sandusky are exhibited in the old-china records by one or two views each. Detroit, no doubt, appears here as it did during the exciting period of the War of 1812, when the city was one of the disputed battle-grounds upon the western frontier. Its houses, as may be noted, faced the river, and, for the purpose of mutual protection, they were set close together in well ordered rows, their farm lands, like the tails of Bo-Peep's sheep, "behind them." The several examples of sailing craft pictured in Detroit harbor, one of them a newly invented stern-wheeler, are also of interest. Louisville, Kentucky, offers to view a substantial stone structure—the

A TOUR OF THE LAND

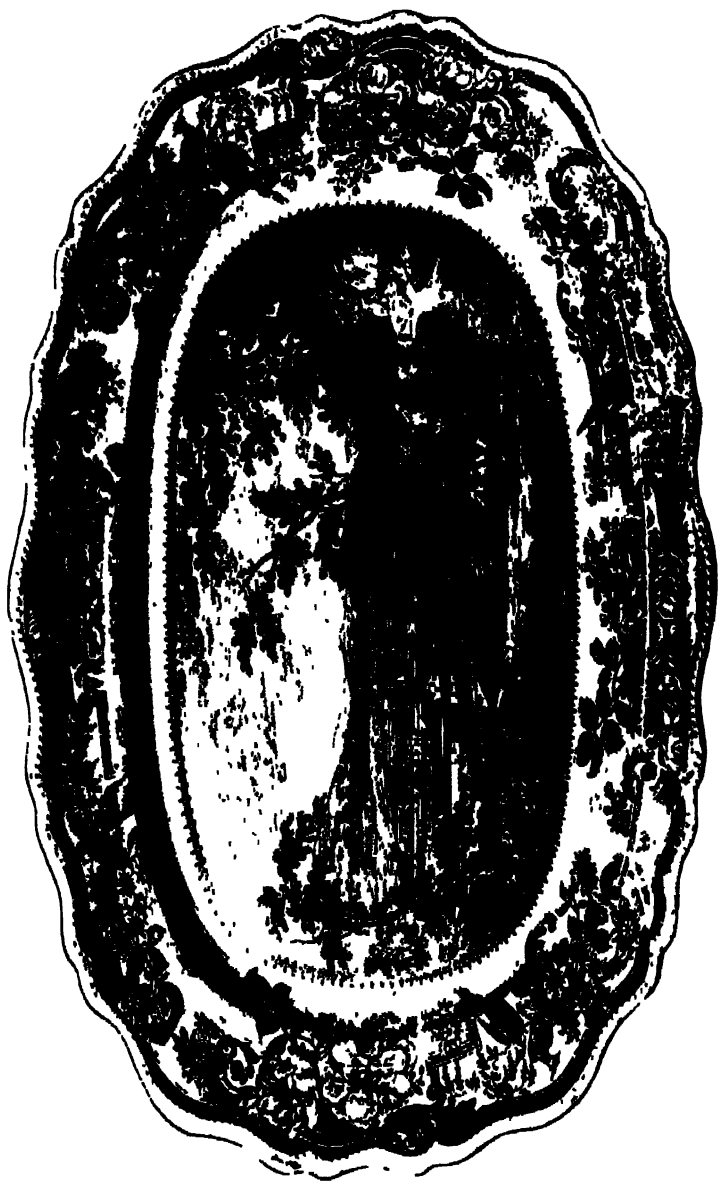
Marine Hospital, a government home for those who sailed the inland rivers and lakes; while Lexington, in the same State, boasts Transylvania University, erected in 1783, the first institution for learning west of the Alleghanies, from whose halls, the French author already quoted gravely asserts, a printing press sent out each week a gazette "to even the most distant farms with all the news of both the Old and the New World."

Beyond the Mississippi lies, at the period of this imaginary tour, the unknown—a region of vast extent and vague knowledge, called Louisiana, a region of mystery wherein fancy pictured limitless plains crossed by rushing floods and peopled by savage Indian tribes. The geographers of the day taught that the Mississippi separated Louisiana "from the United States and West Florida" on the east, its western boundary being New Mexico and "a ridge of mountains generally denominated the Shining Mountains, which divide the western waters of the Mississippi from those that flow into the Pacific Ocean." Not until the discovery of California gold in 1849, and the consequent tide of humanity toward it, was the region of the literally shining mountains opened to the general knowledge of the world.

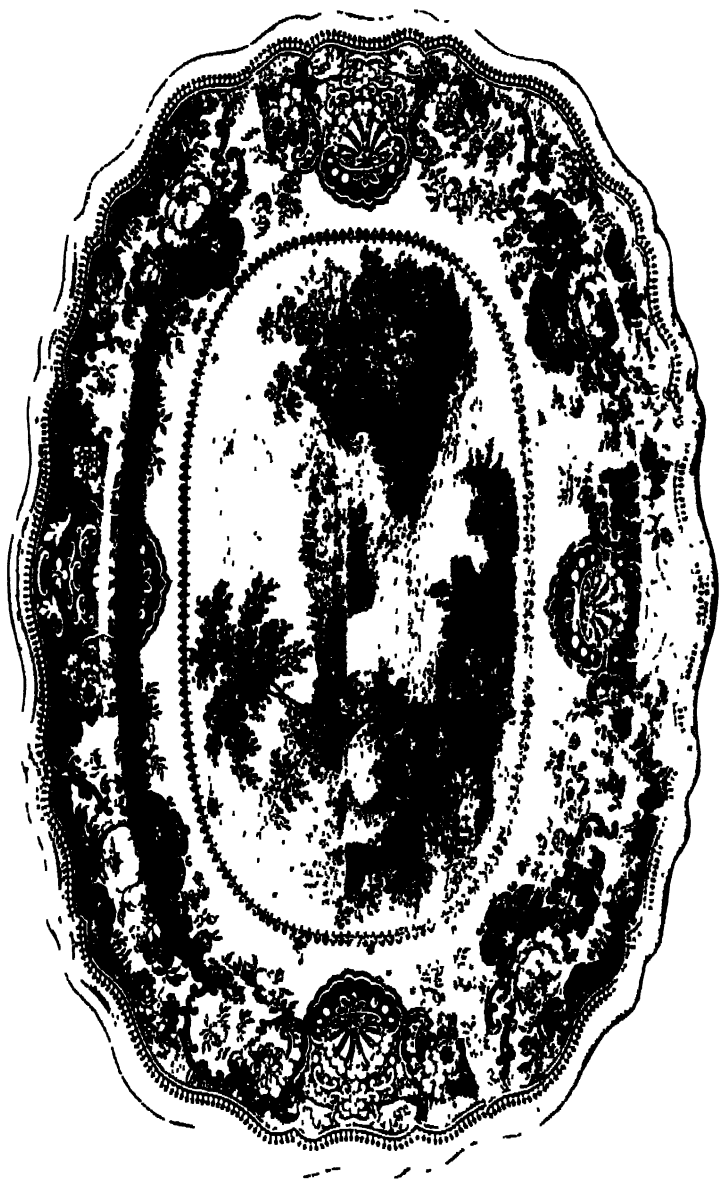
The imaginary Tour of Colonial America, conducted by means of contemporary pottery, comes to an end at the most celebrated spot upon the continent—Niagara Falls. To look upon the "great Cataract of Ni-

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

agara" was the ambition of every early European traveler to America, and for centuries the journey thither was the world's "grand tour." First reports of this wonderful fall of water came from the Indians who, in the early part of the seventeenth century, told Champlain and the Huron missionaries of a great body of water which "fell from a rock higher than the tallest pine trees." A few years later, French officers stationed at Fort Niagara made sketches of the Falls and carried them to Europe, together with tales of the grandeur of the spectacle hidden in the wilds of this new country. Eager tourists, fired by the accounts, came over to see the wonder, walking all the way from Boston or New York, or driving over almost impassable roads. Each gazer upon the spectacle felt called upon to record his impressions, and many and varied are the emotions chronicled; to some, the sight is an "ode" or a "rhapsody"; for others, its influence depresses the spirits. One tourist is disappointed because he is not, as he expected, met by a "vision of foam and fury and dizzy cliffs, and the ocean tumbling down out of the sky." A practical English captain, whose mind was probably filled with the new ideas of steam-power, longed to carry the Falls to Italy, pour their volume into the crater of Vesuvius, and thus "create the largest steam boiler that ever entered into the imagination of man!" Lafayette, as he looked upon the cataract, re-



VIEW ON THE HUDSON
(*Claws*, "Picturesque Views")



NIAGARA FALLS
(W. Adams & Sons)

A TOUR OF THE LAND

gretted that their distance from his estate in France prevented his buying them.

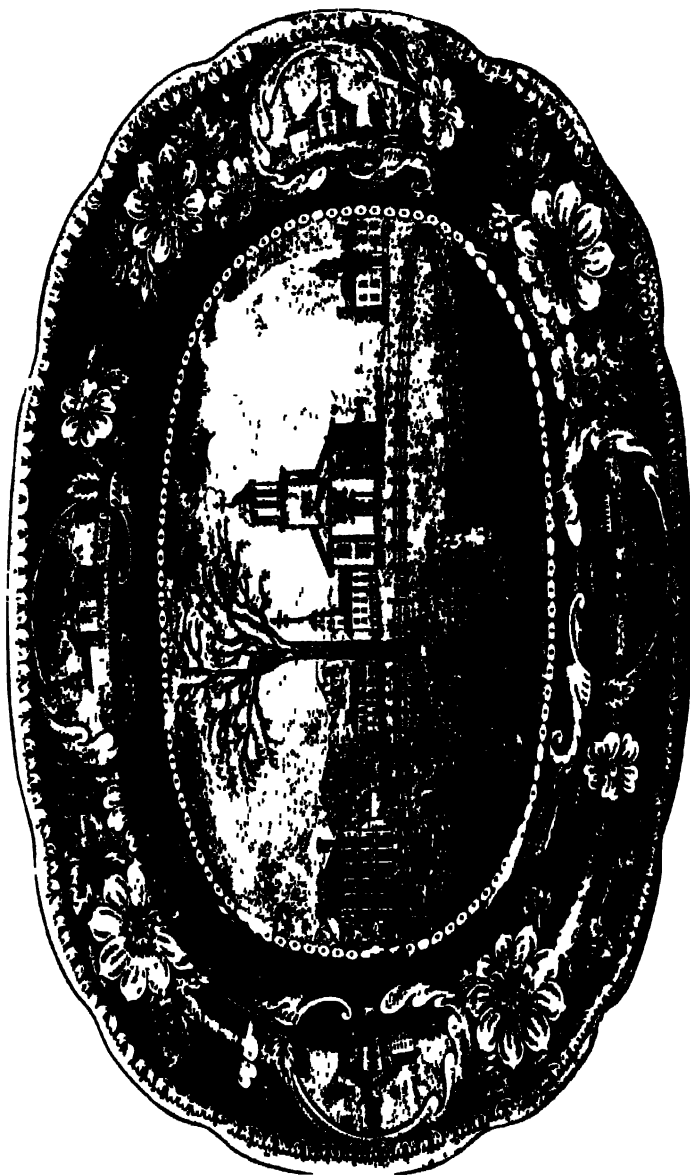
Many tourists ventured out upon the broad flat rock which overhung the Horseshoe Fall, the celebrated Table Rock, the sketch being of special interest as the rock no longer stands. Table Rock was an excellent point from which to view the Falls, from it one being also able to gaze down into the brilliant green flood directly underneath him. At noonday, on June 25, 1850, the great Rock fell. The driver of an omnibus driving out upon the rock to wash his vehicle, had unhitched his horses and was at work, when of a sudden he heard the rock upon which he was standing give a loud cracking sound. No sooner had he led his horses to the land than the huge mass went down, carrying his empty omnibus with it into the gulf below.

Niagara Falls has been called the most pictured subject in the world, and the Niagara of Art equals in interest and variety the literary expressions it inspired. The first Niagara picture was drawn as early as 1697, from a description of it given by Father Hennepin, a French missionary who accompanied La Salle upon his expedition into the Niagara region. In this picture the English artist in imagination looks down upon the Falls and sees the river bordered with mountains all the way to Lake Erie. Three falls of water appear, Goat Island is but a slender pillar of rock, and from the banks and

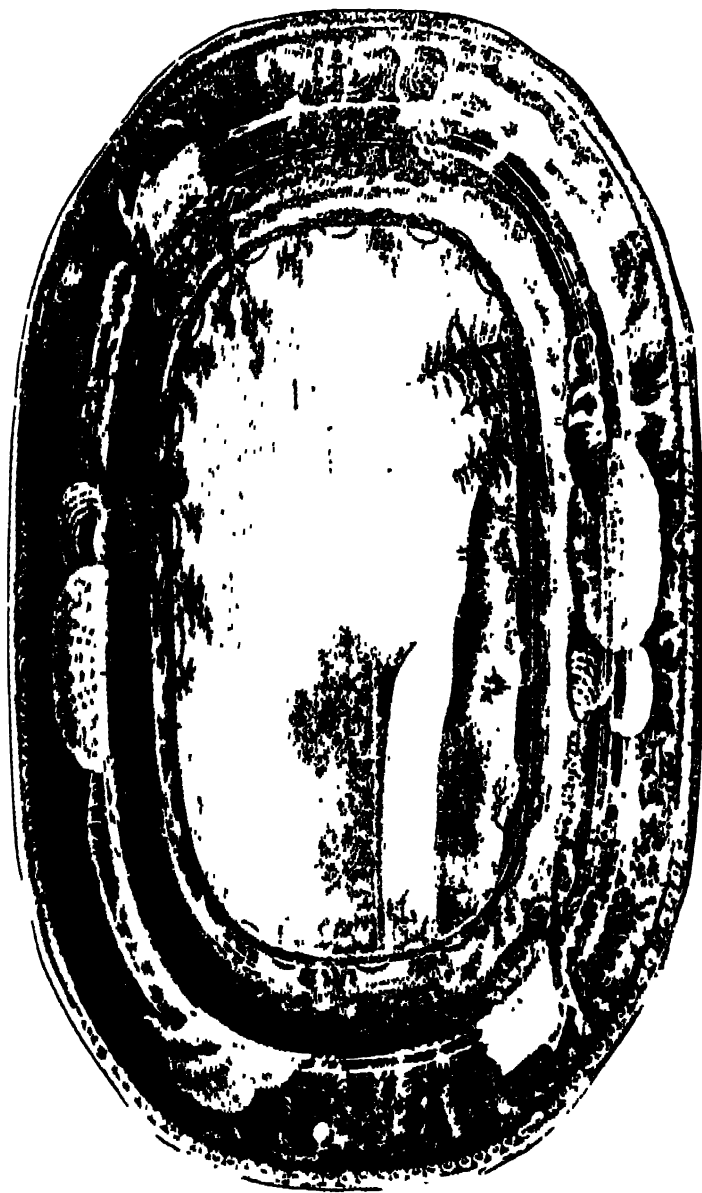
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

the island rise curious tropical trees. This old copper plate engraving was for many years the only Niagara picture, and from it the untraveled world gained its knowledge of the wonder. The Hennepin picture was many times copied, and each succeeding artist, who had never seen the Falls, added touches according to his fancy—a colony of busy beavers in the foreground gnawing down trees, or a band of redmen chasing bison across the stream below the Falls. A richer imagination put in Elijah emerging in a chariot of fire from the clouds above the cataract. Occasionally three distinct falls of water are found in an old print, the sharp bend in the Horseshoe Fall being difficult for the unskilled artist to depict. Not until nearly a century later than Father Hennepin's picture did the world possess, in drawings from the original, a more exact Niagara.

The Niagara of the early sketches is the Niagara of the Staffordshire potters, two of whose views are presented. In the first picture one seems to be looking upon the rushing flood from a point on the American side above the Falls. Three distinct cascades are visible, the familiar expanse of Goat Island has shrunk to a tree-crowned rock, and—can it be? Yes, there stand the pioneer Niagara Falls bridal couple!—the first of the long series of newly wed whose descendants still haunt the witching scenes about this mighty cataract. The bridegroom is pointing with his walking stick into



PITTSFIELD, MASS.
Historic Elm
(Name)



NIAGARA FALLS, FROM AMERICAN SIDE
(Wood)

A TOUR OF THE LAND

the chasm, evidently explaining the mysteries of the swirling torrent to the wondering mind of his bride, who stands meekly by his side arrayed in shawl and poke bonnet—glass of early nineteenth century fashion! The second view of the Niagara spectacle is more fanciful than the first, and is no doubt a composition made from old prints by one who had never seen the original. In this scene the eye is carried up the gorge to the curve of the Horseshoe Fall; Goat Island and the American Fall are quite insignificant; and peculiar semi-tropical trees and foliage conceal from view the rugged banks with which our eyes are familiar.

CHAPTER II

"THE CROOKED BUT INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON"

IT has been said that in order to understand America of the present one must know Boston of the Fathers, and by what more delightful means may one acquire a knowledge of early Boston than from a study of the pictured china handed down from the Fathers themselves? For, upon the blue plates and platters, tea-pots and cream jugs which once graced the tables of our New England forefathers, the greater part of the early city is spread out to view—the harbor; the streets and the Common; the State House and the Court House in which the Fathers made the laws; several of the mansions in which they dwelt, and two of the churches in which they worshiped; the warehouses of commerce; the Hospital and Almshouse for retreat in illness and poverty, and the pleasure resort of leisure hours; finally, the Library and College which bred and fostered that leadership in letters upon which the citizens of Boston long justly plumed themselves.

Boston was settled by some of the earliest homemakers to come to the American shores. About the year 1634, John Winthrop being Governor of Massachusetts Col-

"THE INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON"

ony, the settlers upon the shores of the Bay purchased of William Blackstone, the hermit who lived on the sunny slope of one of the three hills which bordered the Bay, his estate "lying within the said Neck called Boston," every inhabitant agreeing to pay six shillings, "none less and some more." This sum was collected and paid to Mr. Blackstone, "to his full satisfaction for his whole right, reserving only about six acres on the point commonly called Blackstone's Point, on part whereof his then dwelling house stood." Two views present Boston harbor as it appeared nearly two centuries after the original purchase, sketches made from the heights of Dorchester and Chelsea. In them may be seen the Bay and shores in a very primitive condition. In the Chelsea view is the bridge which connected that township with the main city, spanning "the River that renders their attendance on Town-Meetings very difficult," as the preamble of the Act of Separation of Chelsea from Boston in the year 1737 reads, adding, "and whereas they have a long time since erected a Meeting House in that District." Sailing craft rest upon the water, and in the distance may be dimly discerned the three hills (now but a memory) which gave the settlement its original name, Tri-Mountain, an echo of which lingers still in "Tremont" Street. Above the summit of the center hill, named Beacon, soars the dome of the new State House, while the spires of numerous churches tower above the

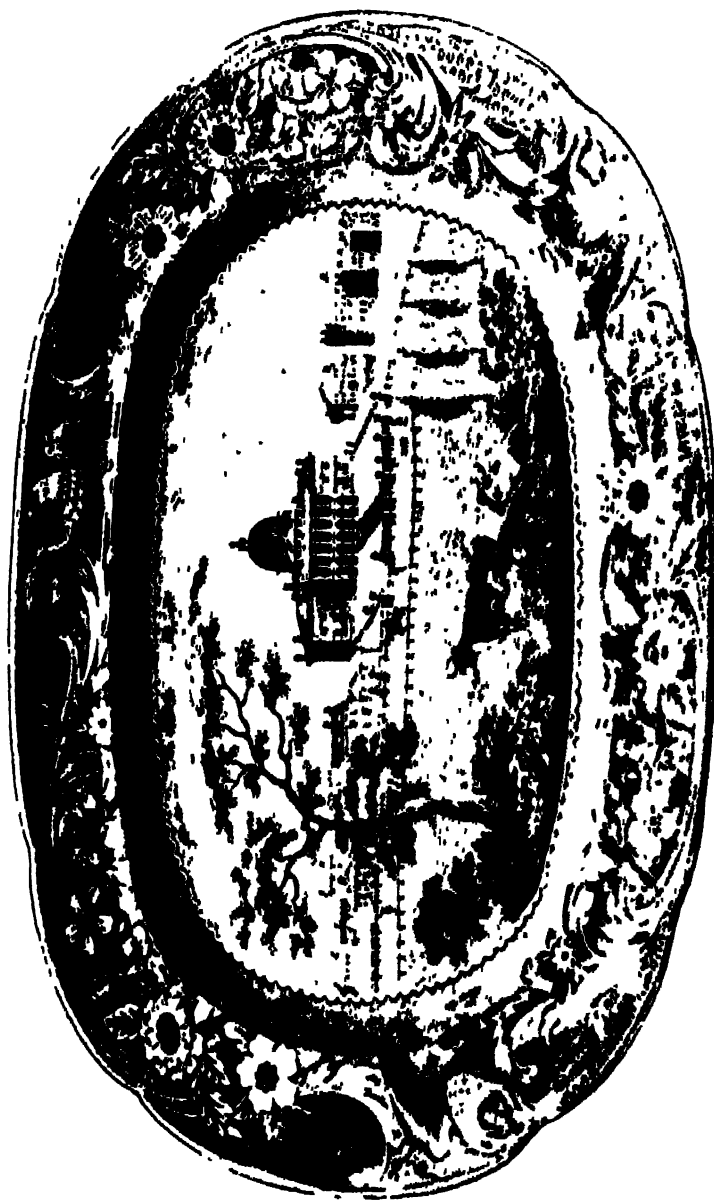


BOSTON FROM CHILSEA HEIGHTS, 1838
(C.C.)

“THE INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON”

feeding of cattle.” The chronicle also states that all persons admitted to inhabit Boston were “to have equal rights of Commonage, others not unless they inherit it.” It was further ordered that but seventy “milch kine” might be kept on the Common, but that “Elder Oliver’s horse may go there,” and that a fine be imposed for any cow or horse except the seventy “if found upon ye Neck.” A delightful letter written by an English visitor to Boston in the year 1740 gives a picture not only of the Common, but also of the habits and customs of early Bostonians. He says: “For their domestic amusement, every afternoon after drinking tea, the gentlemen and ladies walk the Mall, and from thence adjourn to one another’s houses to spend the evening—those that are not disposed to attend the evening lectures, which they may do, if they please, six nights in seven the year round. What they call the Mall is a walk on a fine green Common adjoining to the southwest side of the Town. It is near half a mile over, with two rows of young trees planted opposite to each other, with a fine footway between in imitation of St. James’s Park; and part of the bay of the sea which encircles the Town, taking its course along the northwest side of the Common—by which it is bounded on the one side, and by the country on the other—forms a beautiful canal in view of the walk.”

Upon the Common, in Colonial times, the British troops set up camps and reviewed, the uneven surface of



THE COMMON STATE HOUSE AND DWELLINGS
Study.

"THE INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON"

inscribed, "Success to the Crooked but Interesting Town of Boston."

A number of interesting details of the Common and its neighborhood as it appeared a century ago may be studied in the platter decoration—the fence which was put up in 1820 to inclose Beacon Mall; the tree-bordered Mall itself along which equestrians are pictured as passing; and the newly erected mansions facing the Common upon Park and Beacon streets. Park Street had been laid out in 1802 as a dignified approach to the new State House, the street itself as well as the mansions which lined it being designed by Bulfinch, the architect of the State House and the greatest early exponent of the classic revival in American architecture. Beacon Street was originally known as "the lane which led to the Almshouse," the public home for the poor being situated upon the corner of the present Park and Beacon streets. By the side of the Almshouse stood the Bridewell and the Workhouse, and where Park Street Church stands was the city granary. These buildings had all been removed at the time the present sketch was made, the homes of Boston's Fathers occupying their sites. The house immediately at the right of the State House in the illustration was the home of Joseph Coolidge, the tall one below it, at the corner of Park and Beacon streets, being the Thomas Amory mansion which was built on the site of the old gambrel-roofed Almshouse. In later years the

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

Amory house was divided into four dwellings, the Hon. George Ticknor home being the part which faced the Common; in 1825 the entire mansion was rented for the use of General Lafayette and his suite. The last house at the right was for many years the home of Governor Christopher Gore, and below this stood the dwelling of Josiah Quincy, Jr. At the extreme left of the platter sketch may be seen the home of the Hon. John Phillips, father of Wendell Phillips and first mayor of Boston. By its side stands the home of Dr. John Joy, and, overtopping this, the Thomas Perkins mansion. At the left of the State House may be seen the Hancock mansion, a separate picture of which is also presented, but this view is of peculiar interest as showing the wooden wing which was added for the purpose of furnishing a more spacious apartment for the balls and receptions for which the mansion became famous.

Several of these old time Bostonians lie to-day in the burial plot in the Common before their doors.

With the passing of the years, Romance has also added its touch to the old Common, many a courtship having been carried on while strolling through its shady path — "Whom does Arabella walk with now?" was in olden times a significant question in circles of gossiping friends or in anxious deliberations of family counsels. To-day, at the entrance to the Long Mall which starts at Beacon Street Mall and runs across the Common's length to Tre-

“THE INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON”

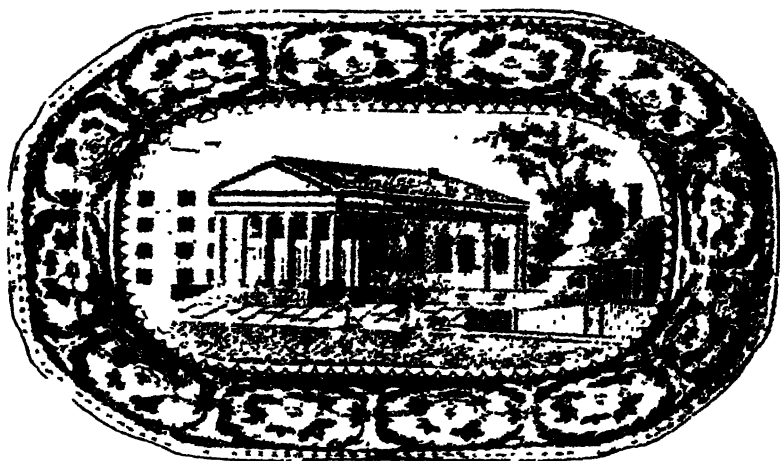
mont and Boylston streets, one may read the sign “Oliver Wendell Holmes Path,” a title given it from the following pretty story of the Autocrat’s proposal to the schoolmistress: “We called it the long path and were fond of it. I felt very weak indeed (though of a tolerably robust habit) as we came opposite the head of this path on that morning. I think I tried to speak twice without making myself distinctly audible. At last I got out the question, ‘Will you take the long path with me?’ ‘Certainly,’ said the schoolmistress, ‘with much pleasure.’ ‘Think,’ I said, ‘before you answer; if you take the long path with me now, I shall interpret it that we are to part no more!’ The schoolmistress stepped back with a sudden movement, as if an arrow had struck her. One of the long granite blocks used as seats was hard by, ‘Pray, sit down,’ I said. ‘No, no,’ she answered softly, ‘I will walk the *long path* with you.’” Reduced to-day to about fifty acres, the old Common is regarded with something akin to reverence by the older generation of Bostonians, and, although from time to time encroachments have been made upon its territory, public opinion may be counted upon to rise in indignation at any suggestion of radical interference with its quiet and dignified acres.

The most important building facing the Common is the State House, once a favorite subject for the decoration of Staffordshire dinner-sets, and later, as Dr. Holmes declared, the “hub of the entire solar system.”

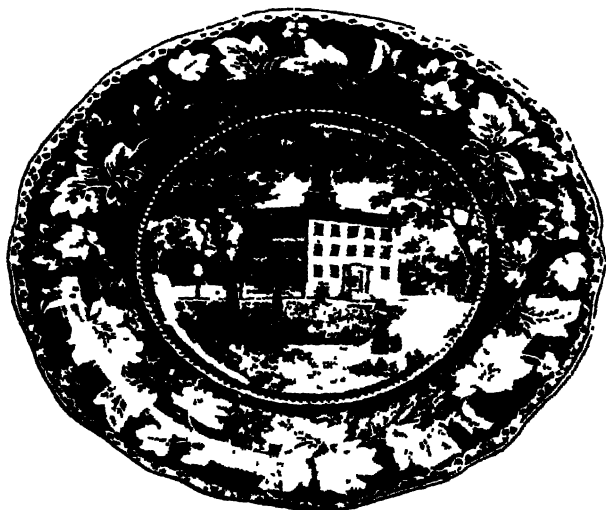
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

The State House was designed by Bulfinch on classic lines and in a style of elegance heretofore unknown in the city, its columned façade and gilded dome always distinguishing it and ranging it even at the present day among the splendid buildings of the United States. The State House was erected upon a portion of Governor Hancock's pasture lot, purchased in 1795, upon the Fourth of July of the same year, Samuel Adams laying the corner-stone and dedicating the pile forever to the "cause of liberty and the rights of man." Until quite recent years, the summit of Beacon Hill ran up behind the State House and was about even with the base of the dome; the hill has since been graded down about 80 feet and the material used for filling in the low lands of Back Bay. The gilded dome was long visible far out in the harbor and was a glorified descendant of that tiny beacon which, in primitive times, hung from a pole upon this spot and, like its prototype in the little Boston town of Old England, guided incoming mariners to port. After having been several times enlarged, Boston State House is perhaps Boston's most interesting structure, sheltering numerous relics of its historic past.

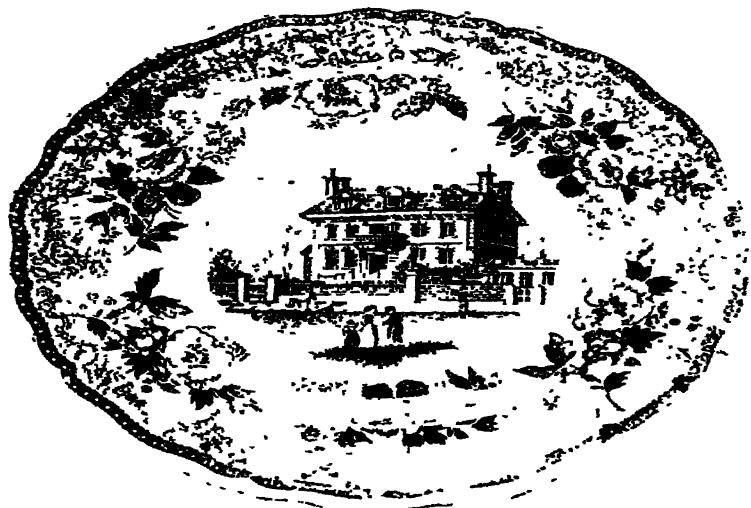
Facing Beacon Street, "the sunny street that holds the sifted few," as Dr. Holmes dubbed the aristocratic thoroughfare, for many years stood the Hancock mansion, a dwelling which acquired such wide-spread fame that it was made the subject of a separate design for china dec-



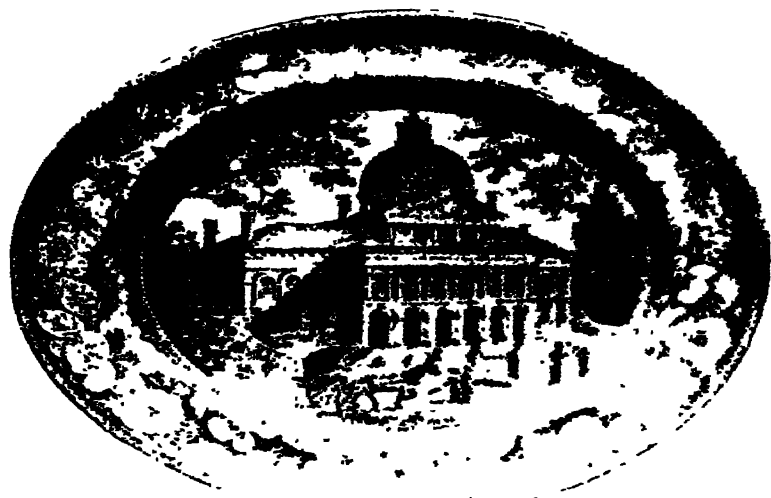
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, BOSTON
(*Ridgway*)



LAWRENCE MANSION, BOSTON
Near Corner Park St. and Beacon St., Facing Common—
Spire of Park St. Church Rises above Roof
(*Ralph Stevenson*)



HANCOCK HOUSE, BOSTON
(*Jackson*)



BOSTON STATE HOUSE
Chaise in Foreground
(*Rogers*)

“THE INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON”

ration. Built in the year 1737 by Thomas Hancock, to this home came Dorothy Quincy as the bride of his nephew, Governor John Hancock, and here for many years she reigned as first lady of the State. The house was a substantial structure, the dormer windows giving a broad view of the city and of the harbor. A low stone wall protected the grounds from the street, and guests passed through the gate up the paved walk and the stone steps into the broad entrance hall. At the right of the hall was the drawing room furnished in bird's-eye maple covered with rich damask, and beyond was the spacious dining room in which Governor Hancock gave his famous banquets—one of them being a breakfast to the French Admiral d'Estaing at the time his ship was anchored in the harbor. Gossip whispers that the French Admiral brought along so many of his officers and men to the breakfast that Mistress Dorothy's wits were hard pressed to find food enough to go around, and she was obliged to send the cooks out to borrow cakes of her friends and to milk the cows on the Common. At the left of the hall was the family drawing room, its walls covered with crimson paper, from it an exit leading to a formal garden. The Hancock House was pillaged by British soldiers at the time of Lexington fight, when orders came from England to hang the "Proscribed Patriots," John Hancock and his friend Samuel Adams—orders which failed of exe-

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cution, however, but which inspired the decoration of a set of Liverpool pitchers (described in another chapter), as well as the following lines of a British rhymster :

As for their King, John Hancock,
And Adams, if they're taken,
Their heads for signs shall hang up high
Upon that Hill called Beacon.

The Lawrence mansion, a view of which with the top of the spire of Park Street church visible above its roof is here presented, was a near neighbor of the celebrated Amory mansion on Park Street. It was occupied by the Hon. Abbott Lawrence, of the firm of distinguished merchants "A. & A. Lawrence," who in 1849 was minister of the United States to the Court of St. James. The house is now, on the authority of an old Bostonian, No. 8 Park Street, the home of the Union Club.

The Suffolk County Court House, a view of which is one of the interesting souvenirs of the Boston of the Fathers to be found printed upon tableware in the rich deep blues of Staffordshire manufacture, was erected in the year 1810 from a design by the architect Bulfinch. It was an interesting structure, with an octagonal center flanked by two wings. Until the year 1862, the building served as City Hall as well as Court House, in that year having been demolished to make room for a City Hall of more modern construction.

Among the church edifices of early Boston pictured



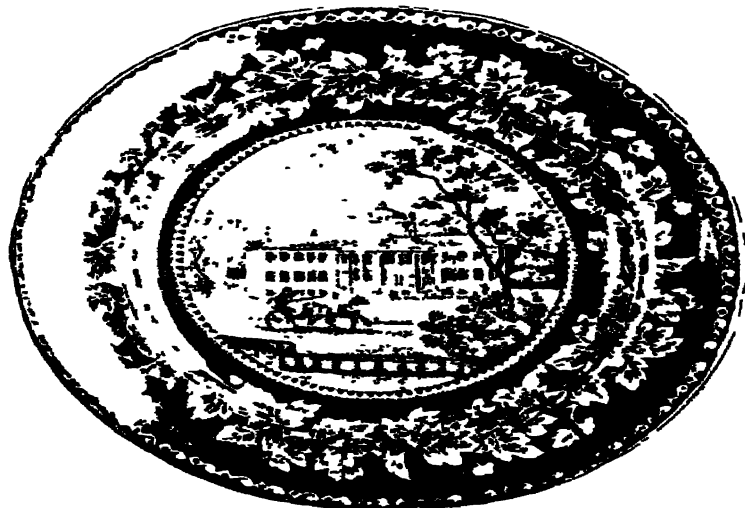
UNIVERSITY HALL, HARVARD COLLEGE
BUILT 1815
(*R. S. W. or R. S. & W.*)



HARVARD COLLEGE BUILDINGS
(*E. W. & S.*)



OCTAGON CHURCH, OR NEW SOUTH CHURCH
BOSTON
(*Ridgway*)



BOSTON HOSPITAL
(Massachusetts General Hospital)
(*Ralph Stevenson*)

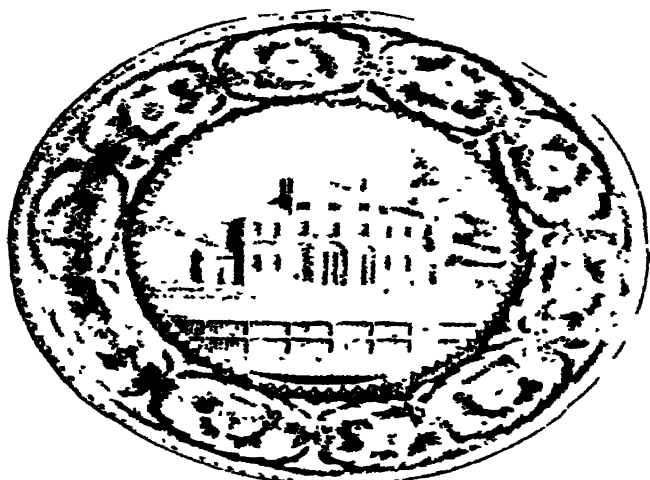
"THE INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON"

upon pottery, one searches in vain for the historic Old South and Old North which played such active parts in driving the English from America, the artists for some reason having overlooked them in their quest for American views. King's Chapel, the "perfectly felicitous" Park Street church, and Christ church are also missing, two church buildings only having been reproduced for china decoration—Saint Paul's and the New South or Octagon Church. Saint Paul's church, now the Episcopal Cathedral, is to-day, like its namesake in New York, hemmed about with tall modern structures which serve to dwarf its modest proportions. Saint Paul's dates from the year 1819, it being the fourth Episcopal church to be built in Boston. The congregation of the old church, wishing a new and impressive edifice, erected this handsome Grecian-like temple of stone which Phillips Brooks pronounced "a triumph of architectural beauty and of fitness for the church's service." The architects were Alexander Parris and Solomon Willard, the last named being also the architect of the Bunker Hill Monument which is presented in another chapter. In their design they gave full expression to the Revival of Greek thought which at the time was beginning to make itself felt in the architecture of the country, Willard himself carving the Ionic capitals. The original plan called for a bas-relief in the pediment somewhat after the idea of the pediment sculptures of the Parthenon, represent-

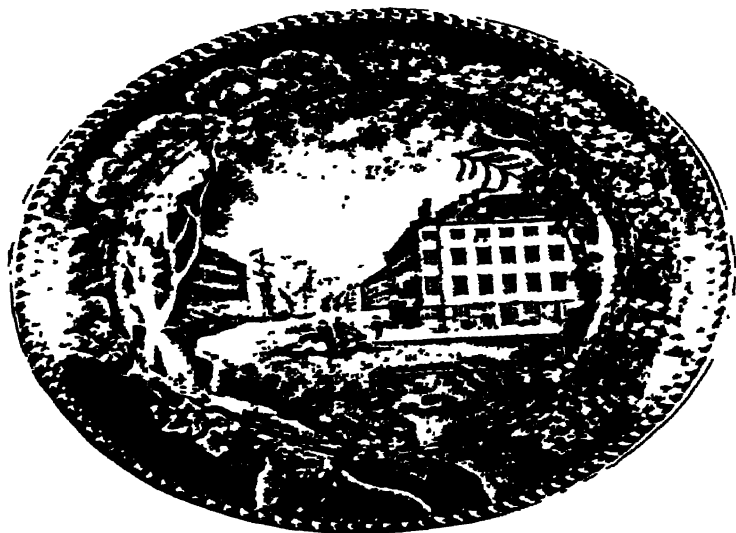
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

ing Paul preaching at Athens; but the funds proved insufficient, and the temporary stone was destined to become a permanent fixture. Underneath the church were several tombs, one of which being for a time the resting place of the body of General Warren who fell at Bunker Hill.

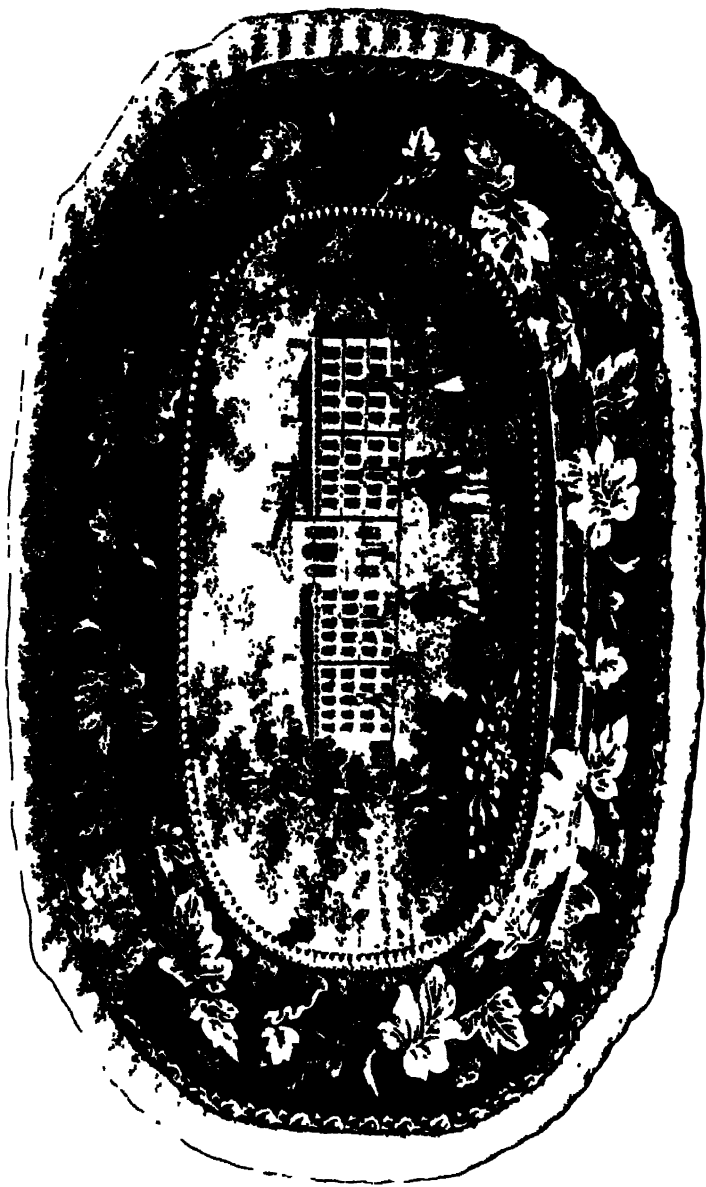
The series of old china illustrations now conducts the historian of early Boston to Church Green in Summer Street, a plot of ground in the south end of the city, the original petition for a grant of which for the purpose of erecting a church thereon declaring, that it was "by its situation and name no doubt intended by our forefathers for that purpose." The original edifice was erected in 1717, Mr. Wadsworth of the Old South and Dr. Cotton Mather of the Old North preaching the dedicatory sermons. The church was called the New South Meeting House to distinguish it from the Old South, and was considered the handsomest edifice in Boston. The representation here given is of the structure rebuilt in 1814, its octagonal form a marked departure from the customary at that period, whence it received its popular name, "Octagon Church," printed upon the back of the pieces of pottery which illustrate it. The design was one of Bulfinch's and the material was granite, a tall slender spire and a portico supported by Doric columns being characteristic features. At the time the Octagon Church was built an uninterrupted view of the harbor



INSANE HOSPITAL, BOSTON
(*Ridgway*)



MITCHELL AND FREEMAN'S CHINA AND GLASS
WAREHOUSE—CHATHAM ST., BOSTON
(*Wm. Adams*)



BOSTON ALMSHOUSE
(*Ralph Stevenson*)

“THE INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON”

might have been had from its door, but sixty years later the city had reached such proportions that the edifice was demolished and its site occupied by business blocks. A curious style of carriage, with postilion in attendance, is an interesting detail of the composition, while in the background appear the homes of two of Boston's Fathers, Nathaniel Goddard and James H. Foster.

A view of the Massachusetts General Hospital was naturally selected by the English artists in search of decoration for their pottery, for it was one of Boston's most imposing foundations, its architect being the famous Charles Bulfinch. The Hospital building was erected in the year 1821, was 168 feet long and 54 feet wide, built of granite and adorned with an Ionic columned portico; the large wings were added in 1846. It is on record that within these walls ether was first used in a surgical operation of magnitude. The foundation was the recipient of large endowments, among them the notable bequest of John McLean, which made possible the purchase of other buildings for the use of insane patients, one of these buildings, known as the McLean Hospital, being the subject of a separate illustration.

The Insane Hospital was originally the home of Joseph Barrell, a wealthy merchant, and was also designed by Bulfinch. The estate, which was noted for its beautiful gardens, was purchased in 1818 for the Massachusetts General Hospital Corporation, at which time the

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

wings were added and other changes made in order to fit it for a home for the insane.

Of especial interest to the collector of Staffordshire pottery is the specimen entitled, Mitchell & Freeman's China and Glass Warehouse, Chatham St., Boston, Massachusetts. Here is pictured a building which stood from 1828-32, a commodious warehouse of the early type situated not far from the wharf. Within its walls no doubt some of the historic blue pottery was received and stored upon its arrival from England, to be distributed later on among the homes of our New England ancestors. At the curb may be observed several boxes or bales, and workmen about to carry them into the building, and upon the opposite side of the street stands another large block of warehouses. Looking down the street in the direction of the harbor, one may see evidences of the extensive foreign and coast trade in which Boston for many years took the lead over other American cities. The tall masts and spars of brigs and schooners, the view dating from a period before steamboats were in common use, bespeak one of the sources of the city's pride a century and less ago—its waterfront stretching from north to south, indented and built up with spacious docks and numerous wharves than which no port on the Atlantic could boast of better, and flanked with fine warehouses. For many years a wealth of commerce was carried on between Boston and the prin-

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cial ports of Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, the West Indies and the West Coast.

The city Almshouse originally stood in Park Street at the corner of Beacon, as has already been stated. This building was burned, and in the year 1800 the "New Almshouse" was erected at the river bank near the site of the old Lowell depot, where it stood, as it appears in the illustration, until 1825, when the ground was needed for the laying out of new streets. The structure was quite ornate, being fashioned of brick, 270 feet long, with commodious wings, arched windows and an ornamental pediment; on either gable stood a carved figure of ancient origin.

In the picture of the Athenæum building one looks upon the meeting place of an association of Boston Fathers of literary taste, who about the year 1810 established a small library and reading room. In twelve years the library had grown to ten thousand volumes, and the association removed to the larger quarters of this house. The collection of books made by the Athenæum society was the nucleus of the magnificent Boston Public Library of to-day, one of the most notable institutions of which the United States can boast. In the present Athenæum building, is preserved a plate like the one here shown, accompanied with the following explanatory note: "This building stood in Pearl Street and one half was given by Mr. James Perkins, the other

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half bought of Mr. Cochran in 1822, and the whole occupied by the Athenæum until 1849."

Did the Boston Fathers of the struggling, stormy years of Republic-building find time to yield to the allurements of the beautiful seashores which lay so near their door? That they did so is proven by two views of the still popular resort of Nahant with which at least two Staffordshire potters decorated sets of blue tableware. In the view here reproduced, the famous inn at Nahant occupies the center of the sketch, with the rugged rocks in the foreground presenting much the same appearance that they do at the present day. The inn was built of stone, surrounded with wooden verandas and had 100 rooms; it was the first hotel to be erected at that point. Shooting and fishing and dining upon sea foods were, a century ago, the same as to-day, the attractions of Nahant, the well-to-do inhabitants of Boston driving out in their stylish turnouts, one of which, a cabriolet with horses tandem, is presented in the picture; poorer folk patronized the little steamer called the *Eagle*, which may be discerned in the distance, and which once a day plied to and fro between the city and Nahant.

In the strange, wilderness country of America, the sight of the imposing Halls of Harvard College must have aroused in the minds of the foreign artists an interest second only to that inspired by the natural beauties of the Niagara cataract. And too, the sight must

“THE INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON”

have bespoken to them the quality of those pioneer settlers who, before every other consideration, planned so well for the instruction of youth. Nearly a dozen different views of Harvard were secured and reproduced in various colors, some sketches presenting the entire campus surrounded with its famous Halls, others one Hall alone.

The first settlers of New England, at a time before adequate provision had been made for food, shelter or civil government, recognized the importance of higher education and began at once the founding of a University. In 1636, the Governor of the Colony pledged £400 for the undertaking; the following year, the site was chosen at Newtown, the name of the suburb soon afterwards being changed to Cambridge, not only to tell whence the settlers came, but, as has been aptly said, in order to indicate “the high destiny to which they intended the institution should aspire.” In 1638, John Harvard with his gift of about £800, together with his library of 320 volumes, toward the endowment of the college, made the project a certainty—the foundation, in gratitude, receiving his name. The avowed object of Harvard was the training of young men for the ministry, one of the first rules for students enjoining that they “lay Christ in the bottom as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning”—a rule in perfect accord with the principles which led the Puritans to

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America. Next to religious training was placed the classical, for those days marked the beginning of the period in this country, now almost disappeared, in which a person without a classical training "might be ashamed to count himself a scholar." In 1642 and succeeding years, the following conditions for admission to Harvard were in force: "Whoever shall be able to read Cicero or any other such like classical authors at sight and make and speak true Latin in verse and prose, suo ut aiunt Marte, and decline perfectly the paradigms of nouns and verbs in the Greek tongue: Let him then and not before be capable of admission into the college." It is not to be wondered, therefore, that as early as 1719, a Londoner making the grand tour of America recorded in a book of his impressions of the country the following lines concerning Boston: "It appears that Humanity and the Knowledge of Letters flourish more here than in all the other English Plantations put together; for in the City of New York there is but one Bookseller's Shop, and in the Plantations of Virginia, Maryland, Carolina, Barbadoes, and the Islands, none at all."

At the present time, after the lapse of over three centuries, it is interesting to read the regulations governing the conduct of freshmen toward the members of that first college community in America. A freshman was not allowed to wear his hat in the college yard, "un-

“THE INTERESTING TOWN OF BOSTON”

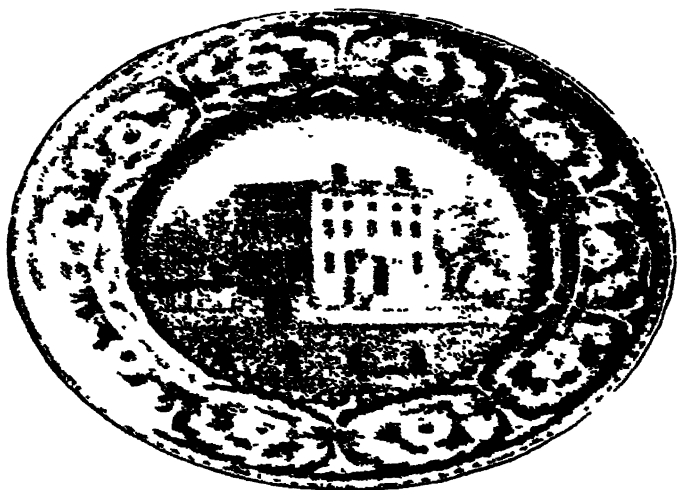
less it rains, hails or snows, provided he be on foot and have not both hands full”; he must not have it on in a senior’s chamber, or in his own, if a senior be there; he must go on errands for seniors, graduates or under graduates. All students were admonished to honor their parents, the magistrates, tutors, elders, by being silent in their presence except when called upon to speak; to salute them with a bow and stand uncovered. They were also forbidden to speak upon the college grounds in any language but Latin, and must not, until invested with the first degree, be addressed by the surname. Imagination fails to picture any marked display of exuberance of spirits under the restraint of the Latin tongue!

Flogging was an authorized mode of punishment in earliest times, the president in the beginning personally attending to it; later on, it was administered by the prison-keeper at Cambridge in the college library, in the presence of all who cared to be present. Prayer was offered by the president, after which the prison-keeper “attended to the performance of his part of the work;” the “solemn exercise” then closed with prayer, after which the chastised was required to sit alone uncovered at meals as long as the president and fellows should order. In the years succeeding, plum cake, dancing, swearing, punch, flip, lying, stealing, playing at sleeping at public worship or prayers, and similar irregularities

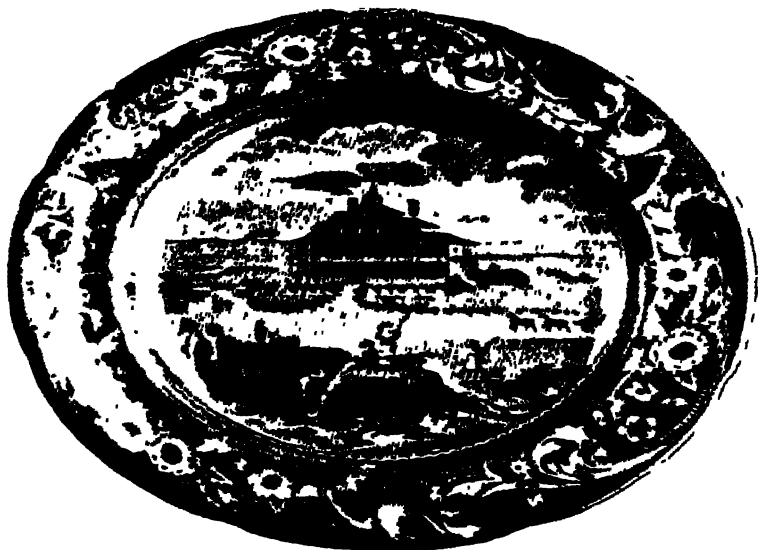
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

crept in and caused such trouble that a committee reported the college "in a weak and declining state;" whereupon a more rigid set of rules came in force, in keeping with the changing conditions of society.

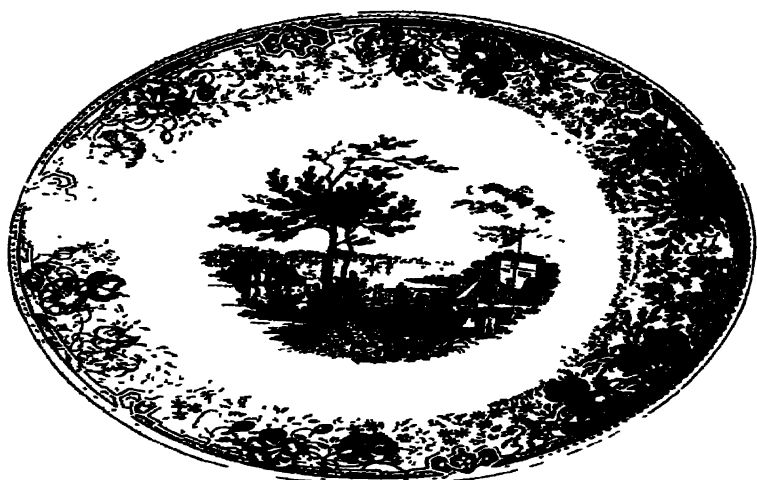
Harvard was from the first of its inception so generously sustained with gifts and endowments that at the time the drawings for pottery decoration were executed the College boasted an imposing array of Halls, some of them the gifts of or memorials to individuals—Harvard, University, Hollis, Holworthy, Stoughton, etc.—in striking contrast to the lone building which, until the year 1857, was the home of Columbia in New York. An interesting view of old University Hall is in the author's collection—a six-inch plate printed in deep rich blue and framed in the acorn and oak leaf border of the Stevenson potteries. The mark upon the back of the plate, within a flowered scroll, is incorrectly printed, "Scudder's Museum." (*See Frontispiece to this chapter.*)



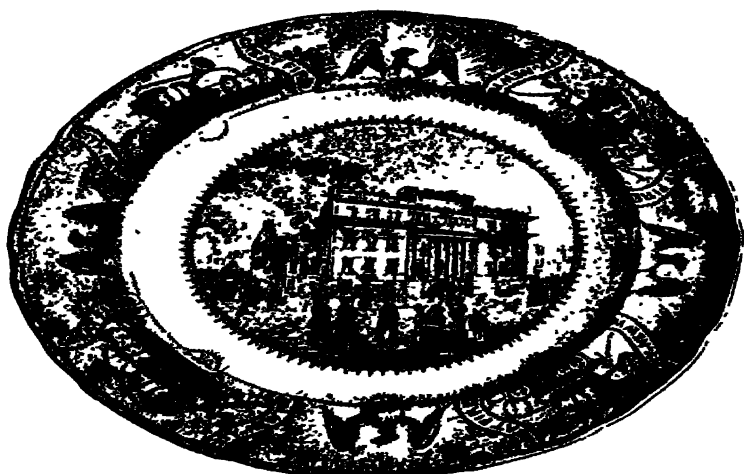
BOSTON ATHENÆUM
(*Ridgway*)



NAHANT HOTEL, BOSTON
(*Stubbs*)



FORT HAMILTON, NEW YORK
(*Godwin*)

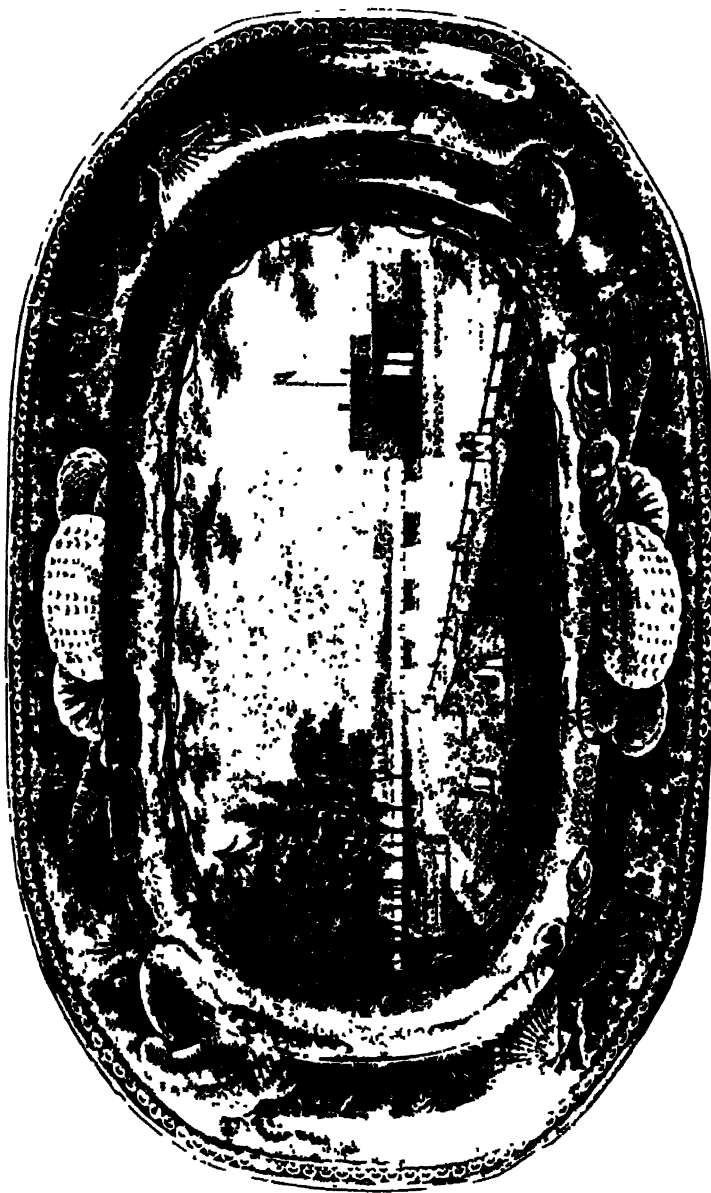


RUINS OF MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE
(*Unknown Maker*)

CHAPTER III

OLD NEW YORK

AS one makes his way at the present time from the Battery through the rambling, canyon-like and crowded streets of lower New York, his mind filled with visions of the city of the Past, he searches almost in vain for a sight of its most ancient landmarks. Where, in the confusion of sight and sound, was located the inclosure within which stood the "mighty and impregnable fort," sheltering under its protecting walls the neat brick-fronted and tiled-roofed homes, set in luxuriant cabbage gardens, of the Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam? Where were their "bouwerries," or farms, "sloping down to the river," which left the old Dutch name an inheritance to the Present? Where was the Bowling Green, and where stood Peter Stuyvesant's wall, with its gate through which the cows of the burghers went daily to pasture upon the Commons,—and, where was the famous Commons? Strolling up Broadway, one looks about for the more pretentious structures—churches, taverns, theaters and municipal buildings—erected by the English occupants under whom the city



BATTERY WALK—FORT CLINTON
(Wood)

OLD NEW YORK

sented by the first two illustrations, one a view from Brooklyn and the other from the shores of New Jersey. In place of the massed group of towers whose outlines call forcibly to mind the silhouettes of the towered cities of mediæval Italy, together with the vast and varied shipping of the world, which at the present time meets the gaze of one approaching New York from the sea, here may be seen a collection of low buildings loosely filling the point of Manhattan Island, with about a dozen church spires rising from the level of the roofs. Several varieties of vessels, all sailing craft, are upon the waters of the bay; a windmill, no doubt a relic of Dutch times, appears in the view from Brooklyn Heights; while, looking from the Jersey shore, the distant Narrows may be discerned, the rolling shores of Long Island, and, nearer still, a fair-sized island intended perhaps for Staten Island. In the left foreground of the view from "Weehawk," as the name is printed upon the back of the platter, a Dutch homestead is pictured, with sloping-roofed farm buildings snugly nestled within the shelter of a grove of tall pine trees, a circular driveway bordered with a neat fence leading to them through the grounds. We are indebted for these interesting views of old New York to W. G. Wall, Esq., the Irish artist, who came to the United States in the year 1818, set up his easel in these sightly places, painted what he saw and sent his sketches to the Stevenson potteries in Co-

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

bridge, Staffordshire, for reproduction. The same border of roses and scrolls encircles the two views, but the blue in which they are printed is less intense and more transparent than the blue of the Enoch Wood potteries. At the time of his visit to New York, Wall also executed views of Fort Gansevoort, Columbia College and City Hall; the "Troy from Mt. Ida," which is presented in a previous chapter, as well as the imaginative "Temple of Fame" in honor of Commodore Perry, reproduced in a later chapter, being likewise from his hand.

Bordering upon the harbor at the foot of the settlement which comprised New York in Colonial times was an open piece of ground known as The Battery, two excellent views of which are presented. The Battery, as its military name suggests, was originally the outworks to Fort Manhattan, known later under Dutch rule as Fort Amsterdam (the English destroying it in 1789), which Peter Stuyvesant erected to protect the seaboard at the point of the island—formidable mud batteries solidly faced, "after the manner of Dutch ovens common in his day, with clam shells." As time went on, the bulwarks became overrun with a carpet of grass and the embankment shaded with spreading trees. Here the old burghers in times of peace would repair of an afternoon to smoke their pipes under the branches, while for the young men and maidens the embankment became a favo-

OLD NEW YORK

rite haunt for moonlight strolls; and so, from a place of war-like defense, the Battery Walk became renowned as a rendezvous for the delights of peace—the fashionable promenade, or “Esplanade,” whereon of a Sunday afternoon the Dutch housewives and the English matrons were wont to walk up and down in the shade of the trees, enjoy the seabreeze and flaunt their bravest finery for all their world to admire. In the illustrations, several of the old-time ladies and gentlemen may be seen strolling along the paths, sitting upon the benches or stopping to chat with their neighbors, the ladies in large poke bonnets, pointed shawls and narrow, high-waisted skirts, with tiny sun-shades in their hands; while their escorts appear every whit as fine as they, arrayed in long full-skirted coats, broad brimmed hats and white trousers, sporting slender walking sticks—a valuable record of the topography, the customs and the fashions of Colonial New York. Plying the waters of the harbor many pleasure boats may be seen, in the distance Governor’s Island is faintly outlined, and, nearer by, is Fort Clinton, connected with the mainland by a foot-bridge. The strollers upon the Esplanade were accustomed to repair to the nearby ornamental structure built around the historic flagstaff, where luncheon and music were to be found, the view of the Flagstaff Pavilion which is here given being, it has been said, the only existing record of that popular resort which until the time Fort Clinton was

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

turned into Castle Garden was the sole amusement place thereabout.

Castle Garden, in recent years the landing place of immigrants and at the present time a municipal Aquarium, was a favorite subject for china decoration, a number of Staffordshire potters making use of it. Originally as Castle Clinton erected in 1807 upon an out-lying rock, the structure was a fort for the defense of the English town and was reached from the Battery, as the illustrations show, by a bridge three hundred yards long—a space filled in later on and made a portion of Battery Walk. In the year 1824, the building was leased to private individuals and transformed into an in-door garden, with its name changed to Castle Garden. Its floor was elaborately laid out as a garden, with pieces of statuary to ornament its walks, and a stage was erected at the north end, where concerts were given at intervals, refreshments being meanwhile sold to the audience. Six thousand people easily found room for recreation within its walls, and upon various occasions as many as ten thousand were in the garden at one time. Here was held the famous Fête in honor of General Lafayette when he was the guest of the nation, a description of which may be found in a subsequent chapter. A few years later, the place became more distinctly a play-house, and, later still, the home of Grand Opera in America where such operas as

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"Ernani," "Norma" and "La Somnambula" were sung—the crowning occasion, however, being the appearance in four concerts, in the year 1850, of Jenny Lind, under the management of P. T. Barnum. Castle Garden's career as a theater ended in 1855, when the building was turned into a depot for immigrants. At the present time, the elaborate display of marine life within its walls makes of the old fort and theater a fascinating and valuable educational center.

Leaving the Battery, one shortly finds himself in Bowling Green, the little park which still clings to the name the Dutch gave it when they appropriated this plot of ground in the midst of their settlement for their favorite game. The small, fountain centered spot, set to-day like a tiny pool at the foot of the cliff-like buildings which surround it, was long the center of both Holland's New Amsterdam and England's young New York—the village green where maypoles were erected and fairs were held; where the market place stood, the parade ground, the shambles; and where was smoked the Indian pipe of peace. Upon this spot the doughty Governor Stuyvesant surrendered his sword to the English officers; later on, bonfires were kindled in Bowling Green when the hated Stamp Act was repealed, the grateful people erecting here an equestrian statue of King George the Third—only to pull it down as soon as independence was declared. At the same time, the

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

angry populace tore away the iron crowns which decorated the fence around the green, traces of their work of destruction still being visible as the fence itself survives to the present time. The first post-office, whence the mounted post for Boston set out, stood on Bowling Green, and the Executive Mansion after Washington's first inaugural, the building later on, when the national capital had been removed to Washington, being used as the Governor's House, before the state capital was removed to Albany. The fountain was placed in Bowling Green at the time Croton water was brought into New York, the mansions of the fashionable folk of the city still lining its sides. In recent years steamship business took possession of the place, and to-day history-crowded Bowling Green is known only as the terminus of the surface railway on Broadway.

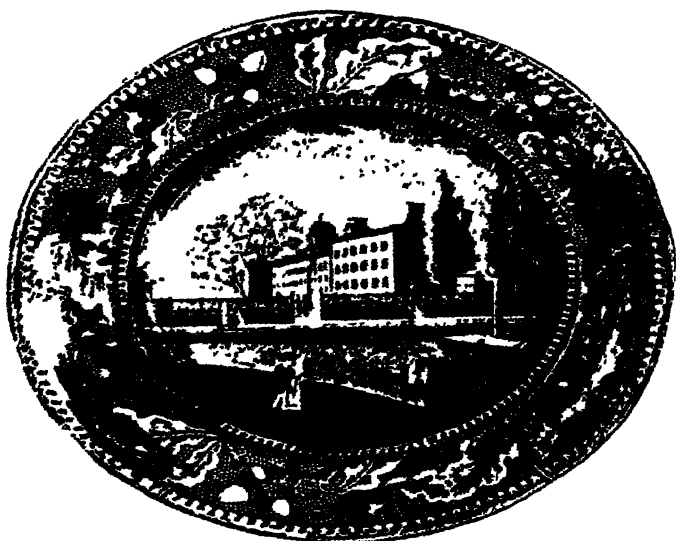
Here begins Broadway, beloved of all New Yorkers, "the greatest street in the world." At the present time, as the searcher for memorials of the historic Past joins its hurrying throng, in imagination there comes to him, amid the confusing sounds of tramping feet and of strident street-car bells, a faint echo of "Sweep, ho! Sweep, ho! From the bottom to the top! Without a ladder or a rope! Sweep, ho! Sweep, ho! Sweep!"—the cry of the chimney sweeps familiar here but little over a century ago. In those same days, thousands of hogs roamed Broadway, the only garbage collectors the



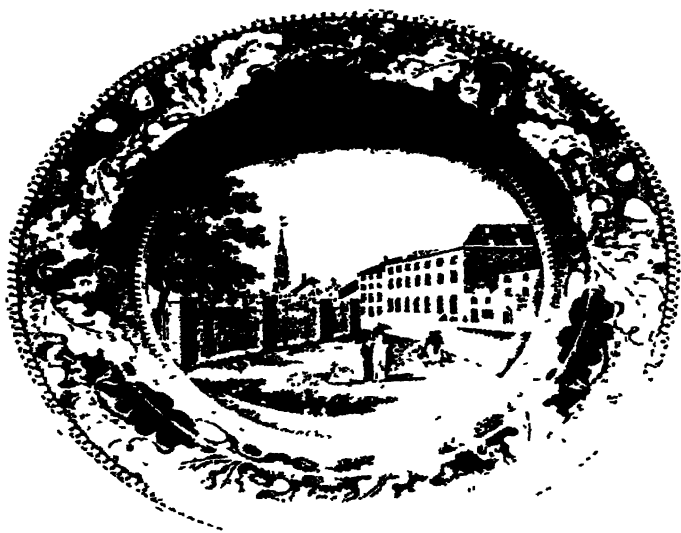
NEW YORK FROM WEEHAWK

From the Painting by W. G. Wall

The \$1,225.00 platter owned by Mr. George Kellogg, of Amsterdam, N. Y.



COLUMBIA COLLEGE
(R. S. W.)



PARK THEATER
(R. S. W.)

OLD NEW YORK

city knew! Sidewalks came in 1790, the first ones being of brick and set unevenly. Benjamin Franklin used to say that he could always tell a New Yorker upon the smooth pavements of Philadelphia by his shuffling gait, "like a parrot upon a mahogany table"; twenty-five years later, however, visitors to New York remarked upon the city's "neat houses and fine pavements."

At the corner of Broadway and Wall Street the searcher pauses, for at this point cluster many memories of old New York, several of which are called to mind by the illustrations. Facing Wall Street near the spot where Trinity Church now stands, in Dutch times there opened upon Broadway the "Land Poort," one of the gates to the picket-wall which Governor Stuyvesant built across the island above the settlement in order to shut out the Indians from the north and to protect his people from a dreaded attack of the English who were established in Massachusetts. The wall stretched along the course of Wall Street, which received its name therefrom, and through the Land Poort the cattle of the Dutch citizens passed each morning, the village herdsman going the rounds of the streets blowing a horn, at which the settlers turned their cattle out from their yards, and forming them into a common herd and driving them up to the pasture called the Commons, or Fields; in the evening, the herdsman drove the cattle back to the gate, through which they made their own

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way home. The paths through the bushes which the cattle established in their daily rounds became in the course of time lined with houses—the origin, it is recorded, of the rambling and picturesque turns and labyrinths which distinguish certain streets of lower New York to this day.

A few steps from the corner of Broadway, facing Wall Street, the first Federal Building or City Hall stood in Colonial times, from the balcony of which George Washington took oath as first president of the United States. Several popular inns were within a short walk of this corner, one of them, Fraunce's Tavern, still remaining at Broad and Pearl streets, its rooms thronged with memories of New York's early days. The visitor mounts the low steps to the Colonial door, thoughts of Washington filling his mind, for this inn was his headquarters in Revolutionary days, and in 1783, after peace had been declared, in its assembly hall he bade farewell to the officers of the Continental army. One sounds the old-time knocker upon the door, when lo! is it a spirit of the Past who, clad in powdered wig, full-skirted coat, knee-breeches and buckled shoes, attends? Some Colonial officer, mayhap, stepped out from audience with his chief? He politely leads the visitor to the assembly hall above and ushers him within its door. The inscriptions upon the memorial tablets over the mantels first claim attention; then, in fancy, he

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turns and looks upon the long table spread, the officers one by one taking leave of their beloved General; at last, the mind's eye follows from the window the little group as it winds its way through the streets to the waiting vessel at the dock. . . . A luncheon partaken in the room below, in company with the spirits of the Past and the pleasure seekers of Today, concludes the visit.

Above Wall Street, upon Broadway between Thomas and Cedar streets, stood what was in its day the most famous inn in America—the City Hotel, erected in the year 1792. The illustration shows it to have been a plain structure, five stories high, a veritable sky-scraper of its time, old chronicles proudly stating that the City Hotel was visible as far away as the shores of Brooklyn and New Jersey. The City Hotel contained 78 rooms, and, until the Astor House was erected in 1836, it was New York's best-known hostelry, famed far and wide not only for the splendor of its accommodations and its entertainments but also for the importance of its guests. During the period of the War of 1812, five hundred gentlemen sat down in its long dining hall to a dinner in honor of the gallant and successful naval Commodores Hull, Decatur and Jones. On Saturday eve, February 11, 1815, Henry Carroll, a secretary to the American envoys, alighted before the door of the City Hotel, bringing from Europe such joyful news that all Broadway became quickly illumined and men with lighted candles

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

in their hands marched up and down the street—the news of the signing of the Treaty of Ghent, that compact the keeping of which for one hundred years the contracting parties a few months ago celebrated with keen satisfaction. In the year 1824, a banner stretched above the door of the City Hotel announced that the inn was the home of General Lafayette while he was the city's guest; some years later, Charles Dickens was tendered a banquet at the City Hotel, Washington Irving being master of the brilliant toasts. But those history-making days were also primitive times, for behold in the illustration the load of wood in the street waiting to be sawed and stored away, New York having at that time no coal. And upon the sidewalk may be noted one of the many pumps which stood at intervals along Broadway—the chief source of city water until the year 1842, when Croton water was introduced. The spire of Old Trinity, as it appeared in 1788 before the present structure was erected, is visible in the distance. The portraits of Washington and Lafayette appear at the top of the design, with a view of the aqueduct bridge of the Erie Canal at the bottom, this piece of china having probably been made in honor of the famous visit of the "Nation's Guest."

Of the numerous church edifices whose spires may be seen in the view of New York from the Brooklyn and New Jersey shores, three only are pictured upon pottery

OLD NEW YORK

—Saint Paul's Chapel, the Murray Street church and the Roman Catholic Cathedral. It is to be regretted that no sketch of Old Trinity, the mother church of New York, found its way to England for use as pottery decoration. Saint Paul's Chapel, the oldest of the chapels of Trinity parish and second only in historical importance to the mother church, stands to-day, as the illustration pictures it, with its back turned to Broadway at the corner of Vesey Street, which was as far uptown as Broadway extended when St. Paul's was built, all traffic turning off there to the Boston Post Road, now as of old keeping guard over its quiet God's acre (which when this sketch was made sloped to the river), and appearing each year a little more bowed and ancient in contrast with the tall structures which arise around it; for Saint Paul's, whose corner stone was laid in 1756, is of greater age than any other public building in New York. As the sketch pictures, the architecture of Saint Paul's is simple and impressive, an excellent example of church design of a century and a half ago, with its rectangular body, columned portal and exquisite spire which calls to mind one of Sir Christopher Wren's conceptions. The spacious interior of the Chapel is of interest, both for its architectural beauties and for the hints it gives of the taste and ideas of splendor which belonged to the men of the past. At the time New York was the country's capital, Presi-

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dent Washington attended service at Saint Paul's, and his square pew marked with the Arms of the United States is still shown to visitors; upon the opposite side of the nave, designated by the Arms of New York state, is the pew of New York State's first governor, George Clinton. An urn in the portico contains the body of the young and brave General Richard Montgomery, a former parishioner, who in the first year of the Revolution lost his life before Quebec. The memorial, an elaborate one of bronze, was authorized by Congress and purchased in France by Benjamin Franklin, being brought over in an American privateer which was captured by a British gunboat, before it could be safely placed. The dwelling house at the right of the Chapel, as the sketch presents it, was the residence of Major Walter Rutherford, which later on became a store, and was finally demolished by J. J. Astor to make way for his famous hotel.

The edifice known as the Murray Street church, erected in 1812, stood on Murray Street facing Columbia College, and, from the circumstance that its pastor, Dr. Mason, was a man of extreme popularity, it was also called Dr. Mason's Church. It was built of red sandstone, with a steeple 200 feet high, and in place of the portico usually to be found in specimens of Colonial church architecture, this example presents a pilaster-decorated façade. Not only was Dr. Mason a pulpit

OLD NEW YORK

orator of world-wide reputation, he was as well a lecturer in Columbia and a man of influence in the city's activities.

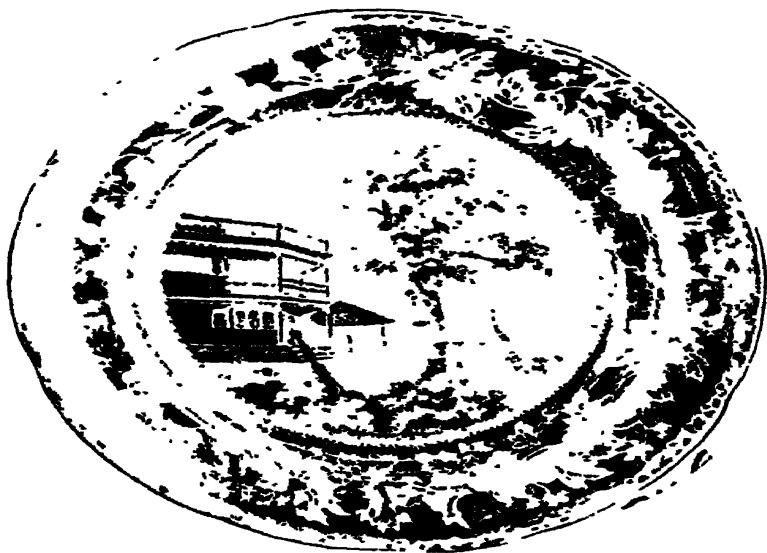
St. Patrick's Cathedral in Mott Street was consecrated in 1815, and was the largest building erected in New York for religious purposes. Of so-called Gothic architecture, it was 120 feet long, 80 feet deep and its walls rose 70 feet. Its roof was of peculiar construction, rising sharply nearly 100 feet. The front of the edifice was of brownstone, with niches for statues.

To City Hall Park, in Colonial years a spacious piece of ground upon which stood the Bridewell, the Alms-house and the Debtors' Prison, the quest next leads the seeker for memorials of New York's early days, the potter's art having preserved pictures of six buildings erected upon the Commons. He is here in the very pasture ground of the favored cows of the Dutch settlers, for this small park, at the present time closely hemmed in by lofty towers and alive with hurrying throngs of humanity, was the Commons, or Fields, a long distance above the Dutch settlement and far out of town in later English times. In the year 1732, after Bowling Green had been fenced in and business and fashion had begun to creep up Broadway, the citizens resorted to the Commons for their holiday merry-makings—Maypole dances, drills, bonfires and patriotic gatherings. Here also a gallows was erected.

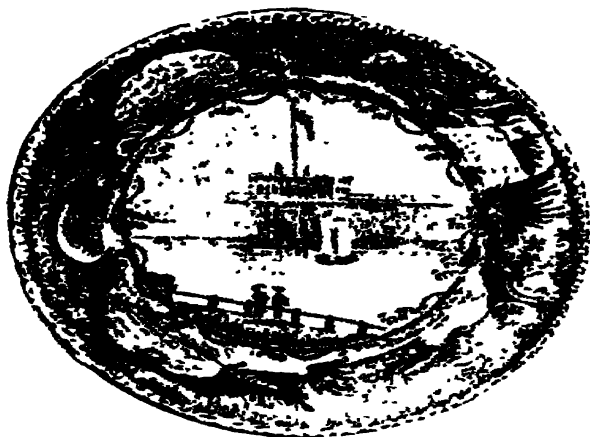
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

The "Sons of Liberty" many times gathered in City Hall Park, and, upon the spot where the fountain now stands, General Washington and his staff assembled upon July 9, 1776, to listen to the reading of the Declaration of Independence, a tablet upon the wall of the City Hall preserving this memory.

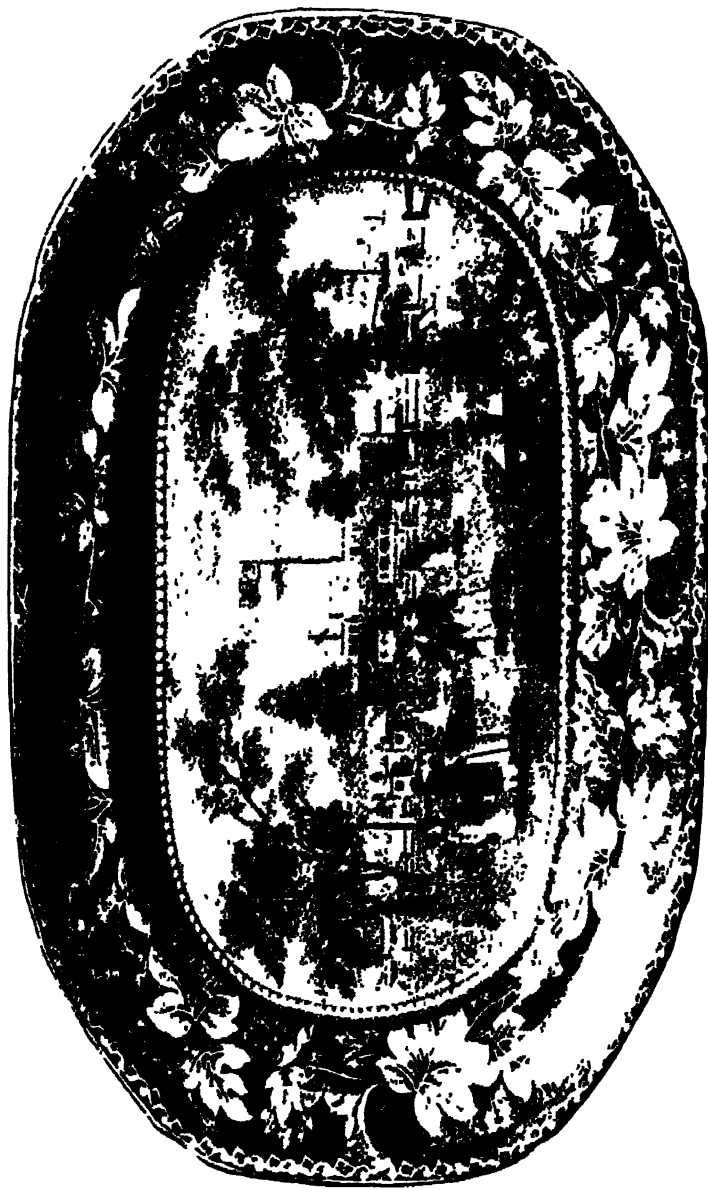
The specimen of pottery known to collectors as the Scudder's Museum design is of extreme interest, for it presents an excellent view of the Colonial Commons, together with several of the original buildings which stood upon it. Upon the right hand side of the design may be seen the structure known in its early days by the names, The New Gaol, The Provost and The Debtors' Prison. The building was erected in 1757 as a suburban prison on the Boston Post Road, and during the period of the Revolution when the English occupied New York many patriots were confined within its walls. Later on, when punishment for debt was yet imprisonment, the building was used as a Debtors' Prison, continuing to serve in that capacity until the year 1840, when an Ionic-columned portico, together with other improvements, which made the building a replica of the Temple of Diana at Ephesus, were added to it and the structure became the Hall of Records, remaining such until within a few years when its walls were demolished to make way for the new Post Office. The building at the left of the illustration, designated in large letters upon the sign over the door as



FLAGSTAFF PAVILION AT THE BATTERY
(R. S.)



FORT CLINTON, LATER, CASTLE
GARDEN
(Wood)



THE ESPLANADE (NOW BATTERY PARK), NEW YORK
(R.S.)

OLD NEW YORK

AMERICAN MUSEUM, was erected and occupied first as a public Almshouse, until the time the city's poor were transferred to the new home built for them at Bellevue. Upon their departure, the "worn-out mansion of the poor in pocket" was given over to several learned societies, among them being Scudder's Museum and Dr. Griscom's Lecture Room. To this place then flocked the people to gaze in wonder upon the Scudder collection of shells from far-off seas, the strange reptiles confined in bottles and to laugh over the antics of the curious animals from South America and the Orient, which formed the exhibit. In the year 1842, P. T. Barnum purchased the Scudder collection of shells, bottled reptiles and caged animals and added to it a so-called Moral Lecture Room, in fact naught but a theater, where talks and plays were given—the modest building here pictured thus being the nucleus of what grew into fame as "Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth." Among other attractions here exhibited was the dwarf known upon the stage as General Tom Thumb, who made his appearance upon its boards before starting out to tour the country and charm the youth of a past generation with his tiny figure.

The glory of the old Commons, however, was the City Hall, erected to take the place of the out-grown building in Wall Street, four distinct views of which were sent to England for use upon pottery. Completed in the

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year 1812, the dignified structure deserved the praise of General Lafayette who, as he looked upon it twelve years later, inscribed in his note book, "the only building in New York worthy the attention of an artist." The City Hall is constructed of white marble, with the exception of the north side which was originally of stone, the prudent New Yorkers of the day deeming it beyond imagination that the city would grow beyond it and cause its back to be visible to the observer! Designed upon pure classic lines, the City Hall presents an interesting example of pretentious Colonial architecture, a joy forever to the beholder, be he student of the art of building or a weary laborer passing through the park. Indeed, a popular vote of but a decade ago placed the old City Hall of New York tenth in a list of the country's beautiful buildings. It is recorded that a recent mayor of New York once said that if a person happened to be in City Hall Park and glanced to the north, he would be made happier and better by the sight of the City Hall. As the years have gone by, City Hall has acquired the appearance of ancient European edifices, the white marble having taken on the same creamy, mellow tones so much admired in them. The beautiful circular stairway (which the designer of a century ago was warned could not last a week!) rises from the entrance hall to the rooms above, a suite of which, known as the Governor's Rooms, shelters many mementos of

OLD NEW YORK

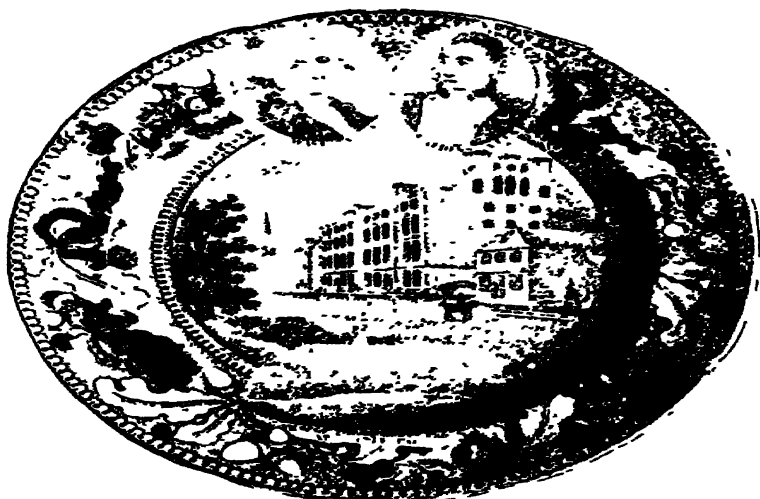
the country's historic past—the chairs which served in the first inaugural, Washington's desk dated 1789, tables, mirrors, and portraits of notable statesmen.

New York's first Almshouse, as has been stated, stood upon the Commons, the building later on being transferred to the American Museum. The original building was erected in the year 1796 from the proceeds of a lottery issued by the City Fathers, a common method in Colonial days of raising funds for public enterprises, and when, in 1816, the Almshouse was turned over to Dr. Scudder for his collection of curiosities, the new Almshouse which is the subject of the platter decoration was erected on the bank of the East River, near Bellevue; in 1848, the paupers were removed to their present quarters on Blackwell's Island, and the Almshouse became Bellevue Hospital. The structure presented was 325 feet in length and was flanked on either side with commodious wings—a large and imposing foundation for its day and one which naturally caught the eye of the English artists in their search for representative views. The same potter, by the way, as the rose and medallion border indicates, executed the design here presented of the City Hall, these two being part of the Ridgway series of American buildings designated as the "Beauties of America."

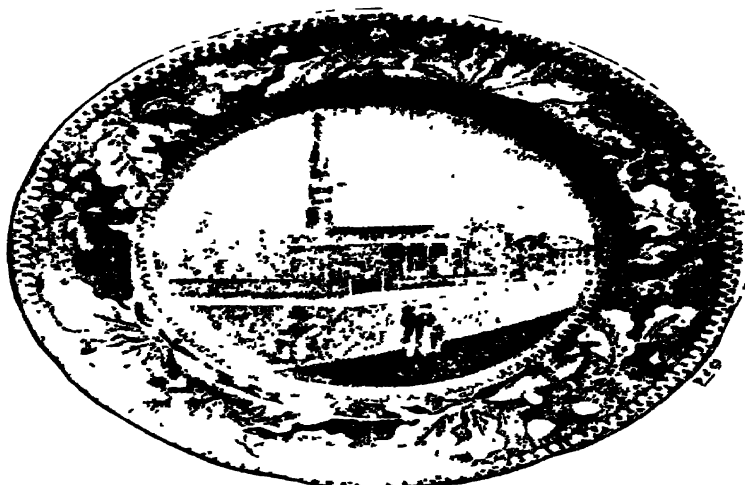
Framed in the same artistic acorn and oak leaf border which encircles, among others, views of the City

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

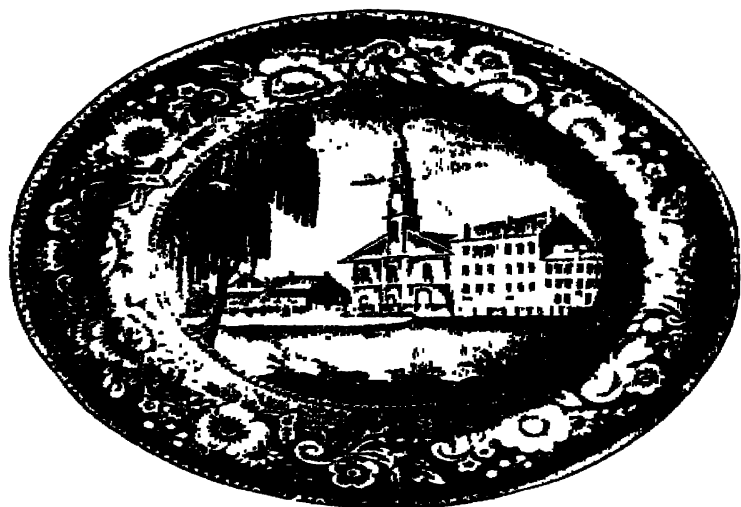
Hotel, Saint Paul's Chapel and Scudder's Museum (a border attributed to R. Stevenson & Williams of Cobridge, a firm which produced some of the best-drawn designs of American subjects), may also be found the Park Theater. This plain, plaster-covered, brick structure fronted the Boston Post Road, now Park Row, which crossed the fields upon the east side of the Commons. It was erected in the year 1798, and for over fifty years it was the most prominent playhouse of New York. Performances began upon its stage, one reads, at 6.30 in winter and an hour later in summer, the patrons having also the privilege of a coffee room and a "punch room." Many notable actors appeared in Park Theater, chiefly in Shakespearean rôles—Edmund Kean, Edwin Forrest, Booth, Wallack, Fanny Kemble, Tyrone Power among the number. The ballad "Home, Sweet Home" was first sung here, and, at the age of four, Joe Jefferson made his initial appearance upon its boards. Italian opera was sung for the first time in America in Park Theater, and there also Fanny Ellsler aroused the indignation of all the clergymen and church going people of New York with her imported dances. The building was twice burned, the last time in 1848. Just beyond the theater may be seen the homes of several well-known New York families, while in the distance rises the spire of the old Brick Church, the "meeting house" erected as an offshoot of



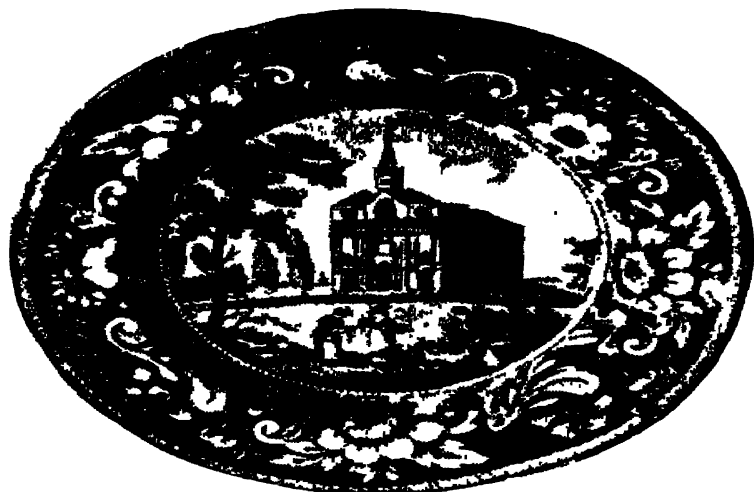
CITY HOTEL, NEW YORK
 With View of Erie Canal Bridge at Little Falls, and
 Portraits of Washington and Lafayette
(Stevenson)



SAINT PAUL'S CHAPEL, NEW YORK
(Stevenson)



CHURCH IN MURRAY STREET, OPPOSITE
COLUMBIA COLLEGE
(A. Stevenson)



ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, IN MOTT ST.
(Unknown Maker)

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the First Presbyterian Church in Wall Street. Adjoining the theater may be noted an old tavern which was commonly frequented by the rural folk who came to town over the Boston Post Road. The fence which is a conspicuous part of the design enclosed the City Hall Park, its tall stone posts united with iron railings brought from England.

In contrast to the campus of Harvard College lined with its many Halls, which a study of old Boston has presented, the single and rather unpretentious building which sheltered Columbia College at the period of our research found but two potters to record its history—A. Stevenson and the firm R. S. W. Clews, who succeeded A. S., also reproduced his design. Unlike the first settlers of the Massachusetts coast, those who earlier came into the region of Manhattan, traded with the Indians and made permanent homes for themselves upon the island, did not concern themselves with projects for an educational institution—the city thus early in its career receiving the imprint of commercialism. Not until some time after the Dutch traders had yielded to the English, in the year 1702, was a proposition made for the acquisition by Trinity Church, for college purposes, of a parcel of outlying land known as “Queen’s Farm,” the proposers being actuated not so much by the need for religious instruction as were the founders of Harvard, although Columbia is indebted

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for its initiation to a religious institution, but, as they declared, believing that "New York is the Center of English America & a Proper Place for a Colledge." The land was acquired, but a period of forty years elapsed before the Colony authorized the raising of funds by means of lotteries, and not until the year 1754 was a charter by King George II of England for "a Colledge and other Buildings and Improvements, for the use and convenience of the same, which shall be called and known by the name of King's College, for the Instruction and Education of Youth in the Learned Languages, and Liberal Arts and Sciences." The following year Trinity Church conveyed to the governors of the college, "for & in consideration of the sum of ten shillings," all that "certain piece and parcell of ground situate, lying & being on the West side of the Broadway in the West Ward of the City of New York fronting easterly to Church street between Barclay street and Murray street four hundred and forty foot and from thence running westerly between and along the said Barclay street and Murray street to the North river." The express condition of the grant was that the President should be a communicant of the Church of England. Dr. Samuel Johnson was the first president of King's College, and in fact, when in 1754 the instruction of the first class of eight who had successfully passed the required entrance

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examination began, he was the entire faculty, meetings being held in the vestry room of the church.

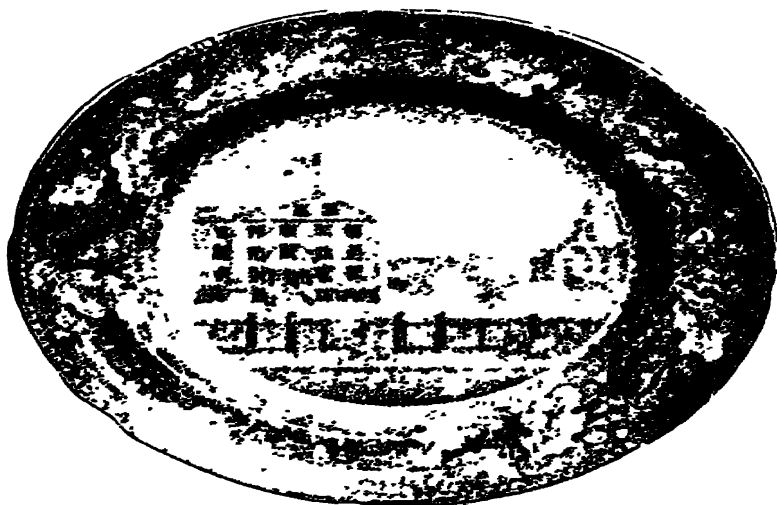
Upon August 23, 1756, the corner stone of the new college, inscribed in Latin phrase, was laid, after which the company partook of a "very elegant Dinner" where Health and Prosperity to the College were drunk—all being conducted, an old chronicle records, "with the utmost Decency and Propriety." The original stone may be seen to-day embedded in the mantelpiece of the Trustees Room in the Library Building at Morningside Heights, removed there in 1897.

In 1760, the college building was so far advanced that the officers and students began to "Lodge and Diet" in it, and in June the Commencement Exercises were held in it, an "elegant Latin speech" by the president before a "large and polite" audience being a conspicuous part. In honor of King George II the building was surmounted with an iron crown. In 1773, King's College was described as being situated upon a dry and gravelly sod, about 150 yards from the bank of the Hudson River and commanding a prospect of the shores of New Jersey, Long Island, Staten Island, the Bay, Narrows, etc. That same year John Parke Curtis, stepson of General Washington, was a student at King's College and in a letter to his mother he gives the following interesting survey of his life: "It is now time to give you a short

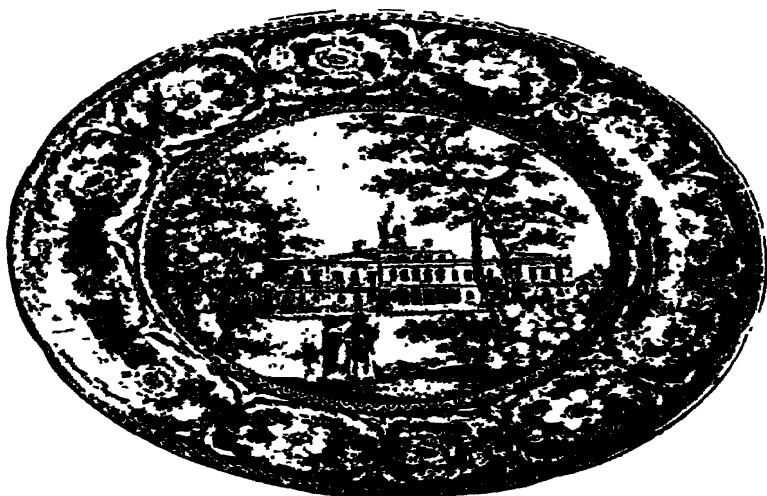
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

plan of my apartments and of my way of living. I have a large parlour with two studys or closets, each large enough to contain a bed, trunk and couple of chairs, one I sleep in and the other Joe (presumably his servant) calls his, my chamber and parlour are papered, with a cheap though very pretty paper, the other is painted; my furniture consists of six chairs, 2 tables, with a few paultry Pictures. I have an excellent bed, and in short everything very convenient and clever. I generally get up about six or a little after, dress myself and go to Chappel, by the time that prayers are over, Joe has me a little breakfast, to which I sit down very contentedly, & after eating heartily, I thank God and go to my Studys, with which I am employed till twelve, then I take a walk and return about one, dine with the Professors and after Dinner study till about six at which time the Bell always rings for Prayers, they being over College is broak up and then we take what amusement we please."

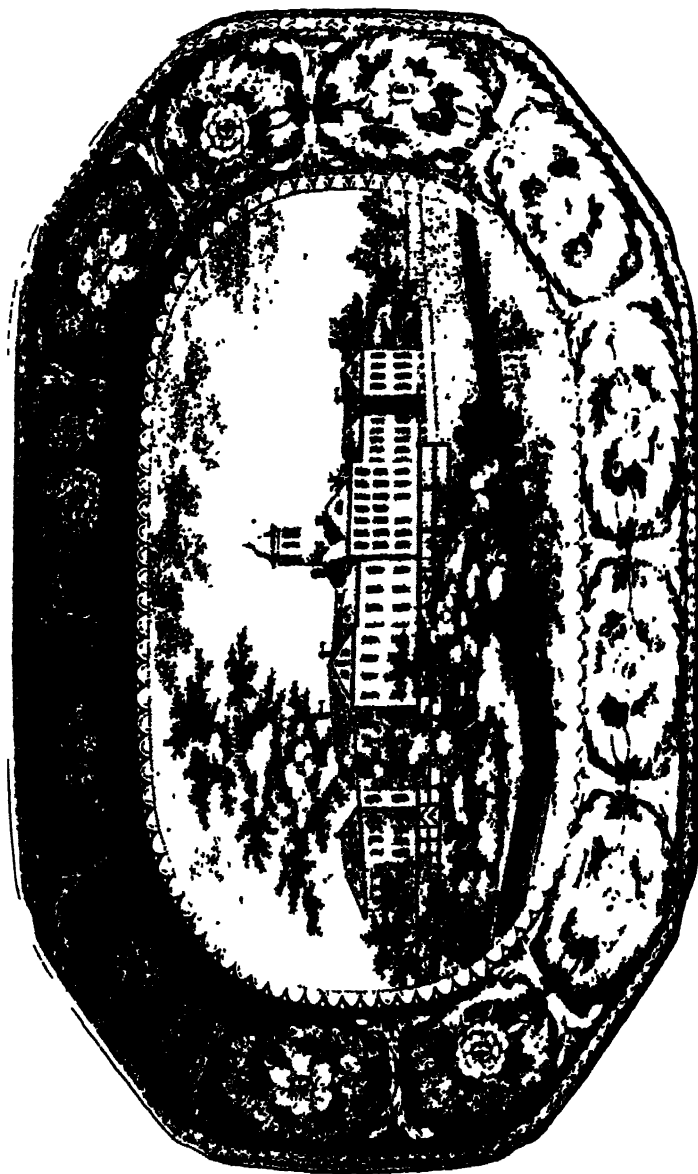
During the stirring political period of the Revolution, King's College naturally played an important rôle, its alumni being leaders in the patriotic movement and of signal service in bringing about the independence of the country; the building itself, however, during the English occupation of the city, was turned into barracks and hospital wards for the British soldiers. It was a member of the class of '65, the Hon. Robert R. Living-



VIEW OF THE COMMONS
 Scudder's, or American Museum: the Original Almshouse
 and the Debtor's Prison
(Stevenson)



CITY HALL, NEW YORK
(Radgway)



NEW YORK ALMSHOUSE AT BELLEVUE; LATER, BELLEVUE HOSPITAL

(*Kedgway*)

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ston, who administered the oath of office to, and proclaimed, George Washington President of the United States. It was a member of the class of '58, the Right Reverend Dr. Provoost, who at the close of the inaugural ceremony conducted the divine service in Saint Paul's Chapel. John Jay belonged the class of '64, Daniel D. Tompkins was an alumnus, as was Dr. Mason of the Murray Street Church. DeWitt Clinton was the first student enrolled under its new name, the name being changed by Act of State Legislature in 1784 to Columbia College. From that date to the year 1810, there was an average of 17 graduates a year, in 1817 the college numbering 135 students. In comparison with the rules governing the students of Harvard, the following Resolution setting forth the requirements of admission into Columbia in 1810 is of interest: "Resolved, That from and after the first Day of October, 1810, no student shall be admitted into the lowest Class of the College, unless he be accurately acquainted with the Grammar, including Prosody, of both the Greek and Latin Tongues; unless he be master of Cæsar's Commentaries; of Virgil's *Æneid*; of the Greek Testament; of Dalzel's *Collectanea Minora*; of the first four books of Xenophon's *Cyropædia*, and the first Two Books of Homer's *Iliad*. He shall also be able to translate English into Grammatical Latin; and shall be versed in the first four Rules of Arithmetic, the Rule of Three direct and in-

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verse, and decimal and vulgar fractions." Although no rule, like that at Harvard, requiring students to converse in Latin upon the campus, may be found at Columbia, one of the principles of discipline at this time was, "During the whole course of education the youthful faculties are to be kept upon the stretch!"

As time went on, the need for a more adequate college building became pressing, the old structure "presenting a spectacle mortifying to its friends"; and in 1817 it was decided to erect at each extremity of the old Hall "a block or wing of about 50 feet square facing the college green and projecting beyond the front of the old building, so as to be in line with the fronts of the houses on the north side of Park Place." Finished in 1820, this is the College building which the china plate presents, the Lombardy poplars in the foreground being also of interest, from the fact that they were introduced from Paris in the year 1791 by André Michaux. Columbia College remained in its original location until the year 1857, when it was removed to Madison Avenue and 49th Street, and thence in later years to its present site on Morningside Heights.

In the year 1835, toward the close of the period in which the English potters made use of American designs, a wide-spread conflagration devastated a large portion of the business section of New York, laying waste thirteen acres of property and causing a loss of

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seventeen millions of dollars. The fire extended from Coffee House Slip along South Street to Coënties Slip, thence to Broad Street, along William Street to Wall Street, burning down the entire south side of Wall Street with the exception of a few buildings, to the East River. The Merchants' Exchange in Wall Street, on the site of the present Custom House, considered next to the City Hall the handsomest building in the United States, was the last to yield to the flames. The disaster must have appealed to the artistic sense of some foreign artist, for three sketches printed in the duller tints characteristic of the output of those years are found in commemoration,—“The Burning of Merchants' Exchange,” “The Burning of Coënties Slip” and “The Ruins of Merchants' Exchange.” The design here presented is of the ruins of the Exchange. The three-storied white marble structure may be seen with its ornate façade alone intact; flames and smoke are still rising from the roof; while citizens are gathered in groups about the ruin, an armed sentinel pacing before it on guard. In the foreground, a safe and a package of papers rescued from the flames are deposited, guarded by a squad of the National Guard in odd-looking fur caps and uniforms. The Post Office occupied a portion of the basement at the time of the fire, and in the rotunda stood a beautiful marble statue of Alexander Hamilton, a victim to the falling walls. The border which frames these

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designs, whether wittingly or without intent, embodies both history and prophecy. Within the scrolls is the record, "Great Fire of City of New York"; alternate spaces inclose pictures of the fire implements of the day—engine, hat and trumpet; while in the remaining spaces, against a background of city buildings, appears the phoenix, fabled bird of self-reproduction, rising from the flames—a prophetic symbol of the great metropolis which, out of the ashes of the past, to-day rises almost supreme among the cities of the world.

CHAPTER IV

THE PHILADELPHIA OF PENN AND FRANKLIN

AS children resemble parents, so cities grow up in the likeness of their founders. The streets of Boston still follow the circuitous paths worn by the cows of the city's Fathers to the pastures on the Common, and the marked regard for learning manifested by the early establishment of Harvard College is conceded to the Boston of to-day; likewise, are New York's boasted Broadway and Wall Street, her extensive docks and shipping facilities, other than glorified Manhattan trading-posts of the Dutch and the English settlers. So, too, the city of Philadelphia, enveloped in an atmosphere of harmony and quiet, bears to the present day in the character of her buildings, her streets, and her citizens, the impress of the formative touch of her founders—Penn's peace-loving English Quakers, who dreamed of a city of Brotherly Love in the far-off "woods of Penn;" and Benjamin Franklin, whose sound teachings in the form of "week-day sermons" (which will be recited in a subsequent chapter), and whose example of industry and thrift, were its corner stones.

Philadelphia was later than either Boston or New

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York in its inception, its site, before the city was definitely planned, having been settled by successive companies of the Dutch, the Swedes and the English. In the year 1655, Peter Stuyvesant, with half a dozen vessels and 700 men, came over from New Amsterdam to subdue the Swedes in the Delaware Valley; both Dutch and Swedes, however, being soon afterward, through the territorial rights of the Duke of York, brought under English rule. Several years later, King Charles II, in lieu of claims which Admiral Penn owned against the crown, granted to his son, William Penn, the tract of land 150 by 300 miles in size which lies west of the Delaware River, and which Penn wished to call "Sylvania," or Land of Woods, but the king added to it the name of Penn, in honor of his friend, the Admiral. Thereupon William Penn, in order to induce settlers to cross the sea, offered such generous terms of payment for land that several vessels soon set sail, bringing hundreds of colonizers. This was in the year 1681.

Unlike Boston and New York and the immortal Topsy, however, Philadelphia did not "just grow;" she was carefully planned, the site selected and the new city laid out with deliberate and painstaking forethought. "Of all the many places I have seen in the world," wrote William Penn after his first visit to his infant city, "I remember not one better seated; so that it seems to me to have been appointed for a town, whether we regard the

PHILADELPHIA OF PENN AND FRANKLIN

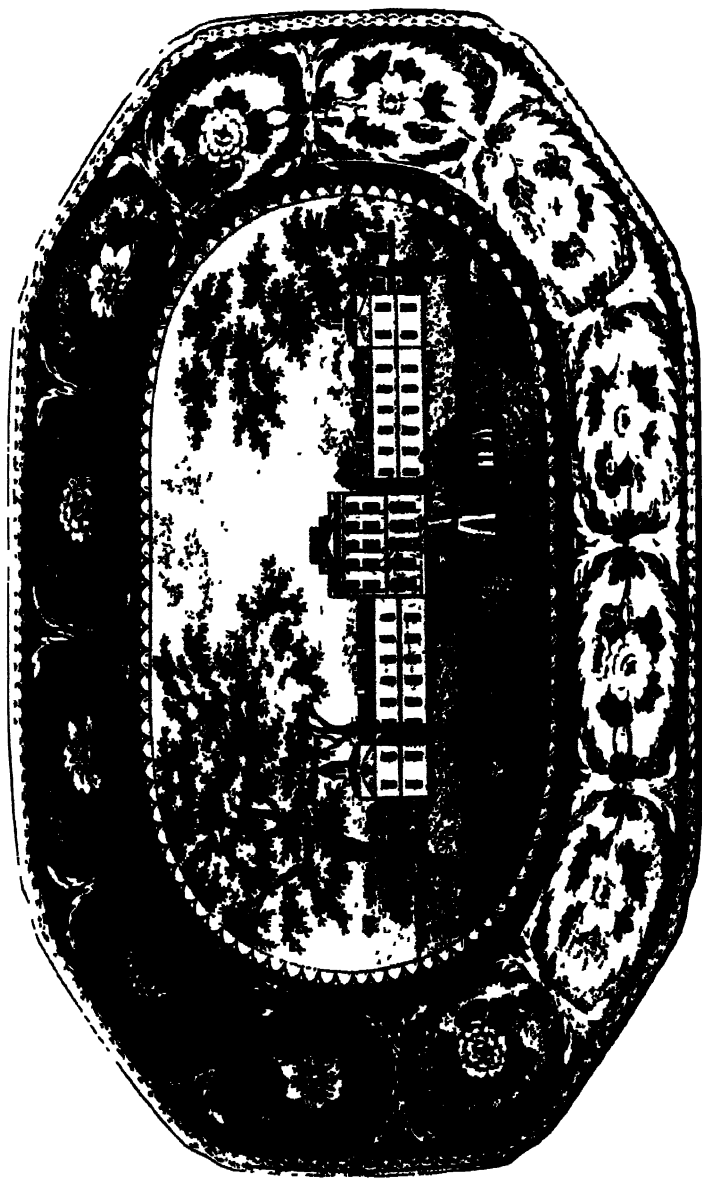
two rivers, or the conveniency of the coves, docks, springs, the loftiness and soundness of the land and the air." And Philadelphia is delightfully seated—in a well-chosen, wooded plot of ground in the spacious angle made by the junction of the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, the harbor well adapted for shipping, the rivers natural roads for trade with the interior as well as an outlet to the sea, and the "soundness" of her climate a perpetual joy. The interesting view of young Philadelphia which the potters utilized for decoration of plates clearly defines the junction of the two rivers, the point of high land between them being filled with a massed group of square-built houses, their roofs topped with a lofty steeple.

Philadelphia's streets, unlike those of its northern contemporaries, did not take their course from the wanderings of favored cows nor from the chance routes of public post-roads; they run where Penn planned them to run—straight and parallel, two miles in length from river to river, and fifty feet wide, with a broad street twice that width through their midst. Crossing these streets at right angles are others of the same width, leaving in the center an open plot of ten acres for the public buildings, the original design giving old Philadelphia much the appearance of a checker board. Penn also directed the naming of Philadelphia's streets, those running north and south bearing numbers, while those which

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run east and west—Chestnut, Walnut, Spruce, Pine, Buttonwood, etc.—“ . . . still reëcho the names of the trees of the forest, as if they fain would appease the Dryads whose haunts they molested,” and keep alive to the present time memories of the city’s wooded infancy.

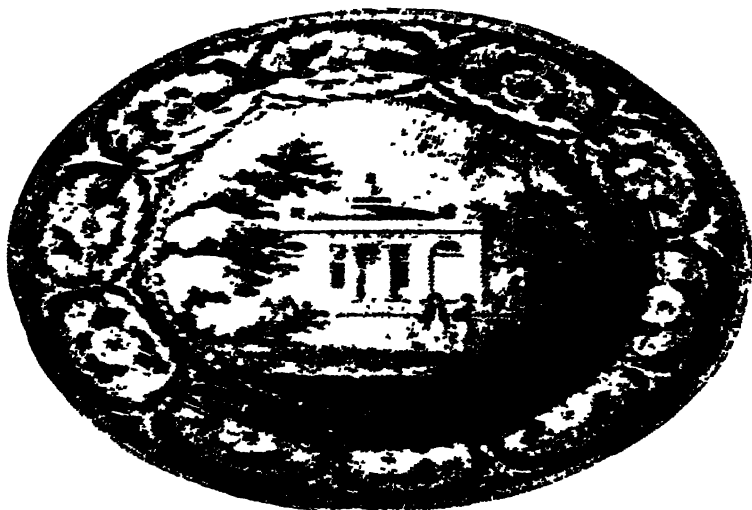
The original houses, a number of which still line the oldtime streets of the pioneer city, were erected with the same forethought that ordered the thoroughfares themselves, all of them being built of brick, chosen for its enduring quality, and after one design, three stories high with plain front to the street and a stoop— “brave brick houses” Penn called them, he himself bringing the London style of architecture into this wilderness of the West. Lafayette liked the old houses of Philadelphia, but with his usual keenness of observation and cultivation of taste, he remarked that their excessive regularity “might fatigue the eye.” An interesting picture of the interior of one of the homes of early Philadelphia is afforded in a letter of Mrs. Benjamin Franklin to her husband in France written in the year 1765, in which she describes their new home just erected in Franklin Court. One learns from this letter facts not only of household economy, but also of imported luxuries of this early date. She says: “In the room downstairs is the sideboard, which is very handsome and plain, with two tables made to suit it and a dozen of chairs also. The chairs are plain horsehair, and look as well as Paduasoy, and are



PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL, PHILADELPHIA
(*Radgway*)



"FAIRE MOUNT" PARK, PHILADELPHIA
(*Stubbs*)



STAUGHTON'S CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA
(*Ridgway*)

PHILADELPHIA OF PENN AND FRANKLIN

admired by all. The little south room I have papered, as the walls were much soiled. In this room is a carpet I bought cheap for its goodness, and nearly new. In the parlour is a Scotch carpet which has much fault found with it. Your time-piece stands in one corner, which is, as I am told, all wrong—but I say, we shall have all these as they should be, when you come home. If you could meet with a Turkey carpet, I should like it; but if not, I shall be very easy, for as to these things, I have become quite indifferent at this time. In the north room, where we sit, we have a small Scotch carpet, the small bookcase, brother John's picture, and one of the King and Queen. In the room for our friends we have the Earl of Bute hung up, and a glass. May I desire you to remember drinking glasses, and a large tablecloth or two; also a pair of silver canisters. The room we call yours has in it a desk,—the harmonica made like a desk—a large chest with all the writings, the boxes of glasses for the electricity, and all your clothes. The Blue Room has the harmonica and the harpsichord, the gilt sconce, a card table, a set of tea china, the worked chairs and screen, a handsome stand for the tea kettle, and the ornamental china."

At the time Philadelphia was the Capital of the nation, a picture of the city's formal life is afforded by the account of President Washington's levees held every two weeks in his home. Upon entering, the visitor was pre-

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sented to the President, who was clad in black velvet, his hair powdered and gathered behind in a large silk bag. Yellow gloves were on his hands, and he held a cocked hat with a black cockade in it, the edges adorned with a black feather. He wore knee and shoe buckles, and a long sword.

With the exception of the Penn's Treaty scenes, which will be presented in a later chapter, the Philadelphia which the potters have commemorated is that of Franklin and his time, and comprises views of the Public Library, Pennsylvania Hospital, Deaf and Dumb Asylum, United States Bank, Masonic Temple, United States Hotel, one church edifice, scenes in Fairmount Park, including the Dam and Waterworks, together with occasional glimpses of street life. There are also sketches made in the suburbs of the city—country estates, bridges over streams, a primitive ferry, etc. Unlike the result of their search for the notable buildings of Boston and New York, the quest of the old-time artists fails to exhibit a view of Philadelphia's historic State House, or Independence Hall, within whose walls so much of vital importance to the Colonies and the young Republic was enacted, and wherein is preserved the piece of parchment which declares that the American colonies are "absolved from all allegiance to the British crown." The Independence Bell which rang out the first message of

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"Liberty throughout all the land, to all the inhabitants thereof," here likewise finds a permanent home.

Philadelphia owes her Public Library to Benjamin Franklin, the thousands of volumes which to-day fill the shelves of the building in Locust Street being the gradual outgrowth of three small cases of books which were assembled in Pewter Platter Alley by Franklin and his friends of the Junto Club. With characteristic forethought and wisdom, those gentlemen made a rule that the volumes might be read not only by any "civil gentleman" who cared to come there to do so, but also that they might be carried home "into the bosom of private families;" in this manner the system of circulating libraries had its inception. The citizens of Philadelphia contributed forty-five pounds to purchase new volumes for the library, the learned Board of Managers modestly sending the money to England without specifications as to choice, and receiving in return a good, though rather heavy, assortment. A more commodious apartment in the State House was then secured to house the books, and, after a time, Carpenters' Hall was leased, with a librarian in attendance twice a week. Here the volumes remained during the Revolutionary period, a solace to both the American and English officers. After independence was achieved, in the year 1789, the cornerstone of the first real home of the Philadelphia Library,

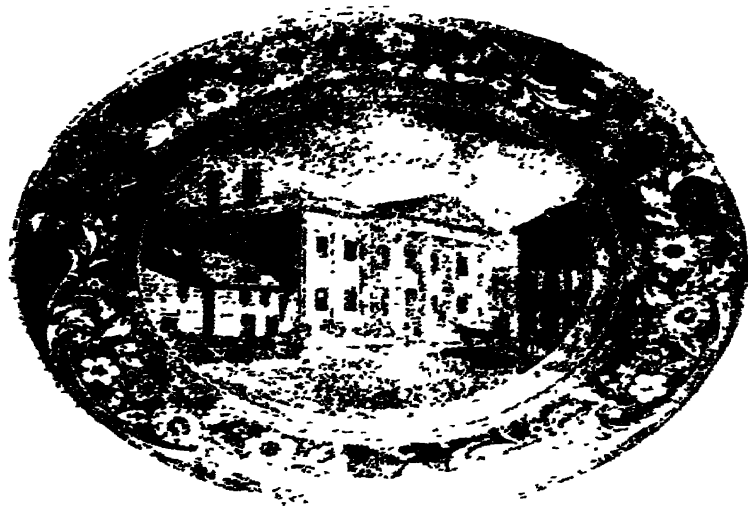
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

the building illustrated upon the plate, was laid in Fifth Street, having been engraved with the following curious lines:

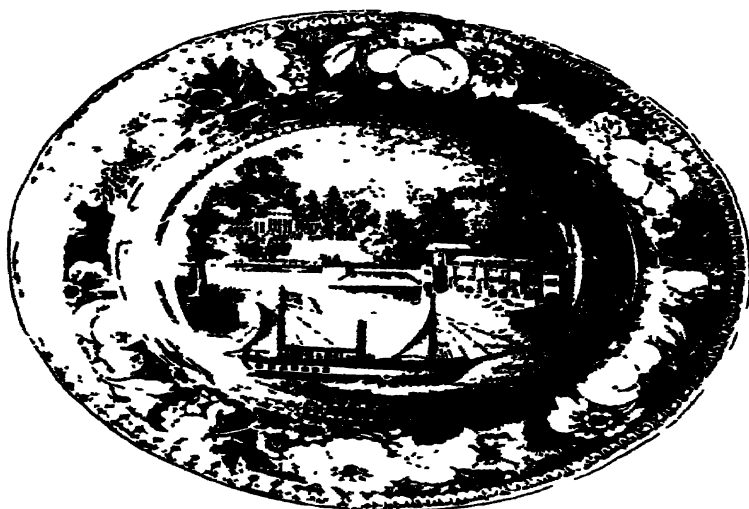
Be it remembered
In honour of the Philadelphia youth,
(Then chiefly artificers)
That in MDCCXXXI
They cheerfully,
At the instance of Benjamin Franklin
One of their number,
Instituted the Philadelphia Library;
Which though small at first,
It became highly valuable and extensively useful;
And which the walls of this edifice
Are now destined to contain and preserve.

In a niche over the doorway, Franklin himself stood guard—a curious statue, made in Italy of finest marble, draped in a Roman toga. Together with the books, the statue was removed in the year 1880 to the present Library Building in Locust Street, where it was given a place of honor over the new portal, the old corner stone also being preserved and reset in the new walls. A number of interesting relics of early Philadelphia find a home in this building, among them a bookcase and desk used by William Penn, and his clock, still keeping time; a clock once owned by Franklin is also there.

In the year of Christ
MDCCLV,
George the Second happily reigning,
(For he sought the happiness of his people)



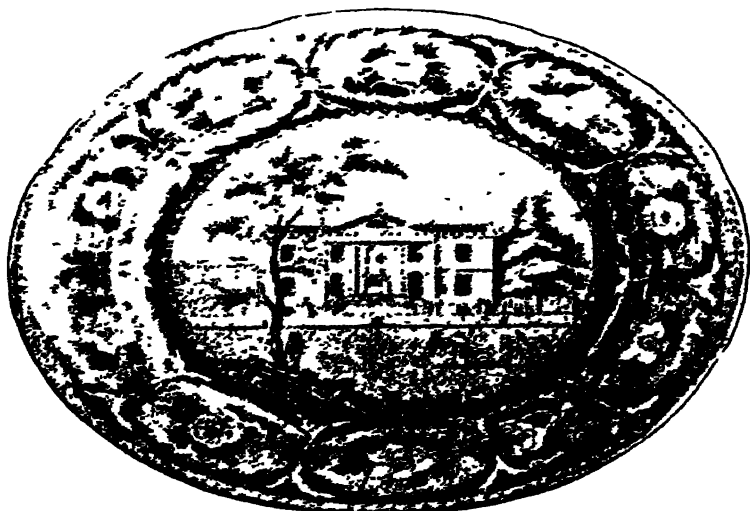
THE BANK OF THE U. S., PHILADELPHIA
(Stubbs)



SIDE-WHEEL STEAMBOAT—PHILADELPHIA
 DAM AND WATERWORKS
(Unknown Maker)



PHILADELPHIA WATERWORKS: THE PUMPING
STATION IN CITY
(*Jackson*)



PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY
(*Ridgway*)

PHILADELPHIA OF PENN AND FRANKLIN

Philadelphia flourishing,
(For its inhabitants were public spirited)
This Building,
By the bounty of Government
And of many private persons,
Was piously founded
For the relief of the sick and miserable.
May the God of Mercies
Bless the undertaking.

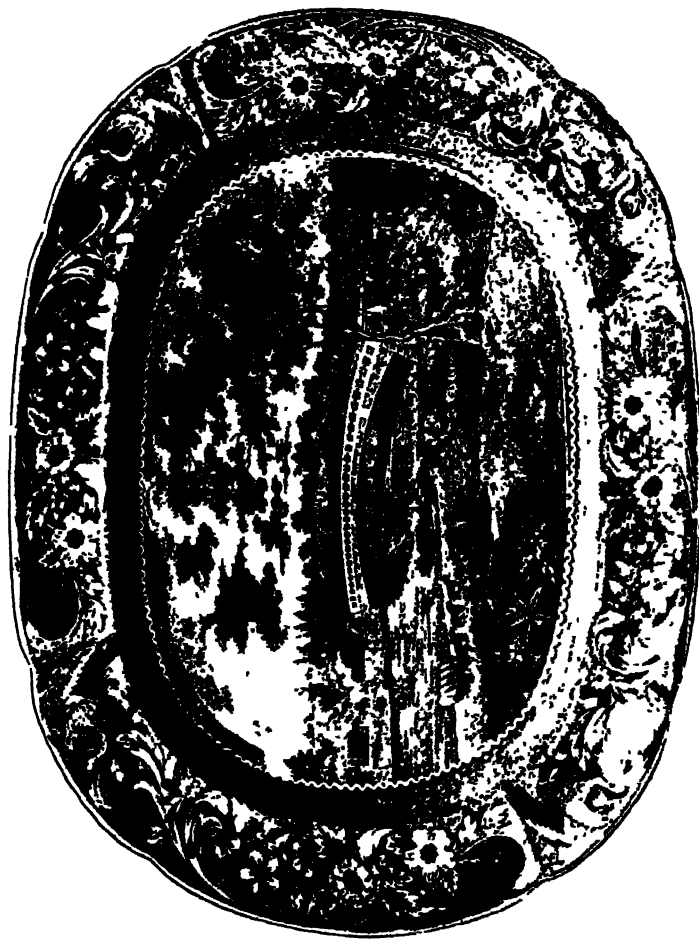
These are the words of Benjamin Franklin which are engraved in the corner-stone of the Pennsylvania Hospital, an interesting view of which is presented in the platter illustration. The record of the "bounty of government and of private persons" which made possible this noble foundation is a pleasant one to read. In the year 1755, the citizens of Philadelphia in order to found the needed institution gave of their wealth, England as well contributing funds for the "relief of the sick and miserable." From London came also a gift to the Hospital, for medical work, of a human skeleton, a thing of such novel interest that admission was charged by the thrifty Friends to look upon it, a handsome sum being thereby added to the Hospital funds. Benjamin Franklin was a member of the first Board of Hospital Managers, later on, its president, and to his wisdom and judgment are due much of the success and prosperity of the institution. The building itself, which when erected was considered far out of town, was originally, as may be seen,

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a simple and substantial Colonial structure set in the midst of spacious grounds, shaded with spreading trees. One of the trees is of special interest as being the outgrowth of a sapling taken from the famous Treaty Elm, after its fall in the year 1810 upon the bank of the Delaware River. The gentleman in the foreground, with severely bent back, is evidently about to seek relief from his infirmity within the institution.

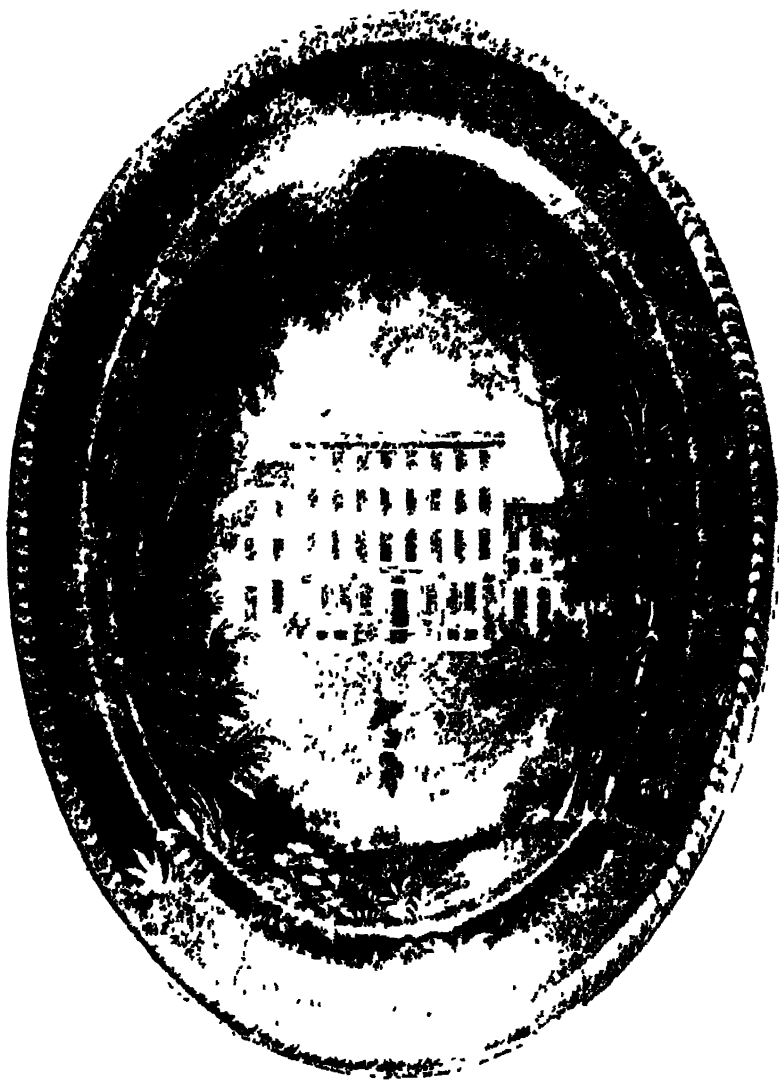
A building of unusual beauty for the time is the old Philadelphia Bank, the Bank of the United States as it was at first known, founded in the early days of independence, when Philadelphia was the center of the national life of the infant republic. The Bank of the United States was the first building in the severe Quaker City to be lavishly adorned, a stately white marble portico with tall Corinthian columns and pilasters of the same order being the principal features of its front. This bank was the parent institution of the country, the main office from which branches extended to other parts of the Union. At the time the present sketch of it was executed, the bank was the property of Stephen Girard, a wealthy Philadelphia citizen, and its name had been changed to the Girard Bank. The old houses by the side of the bank, the oddly shaped wagon and the pile of wood upon the pavement are interesting details of this illustration.

The taverns of old Philadelphia, like those of con-



UPPER FERRY BRIDGE OVER THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER, PA.

(Stubbs)



UNITED STATES HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA

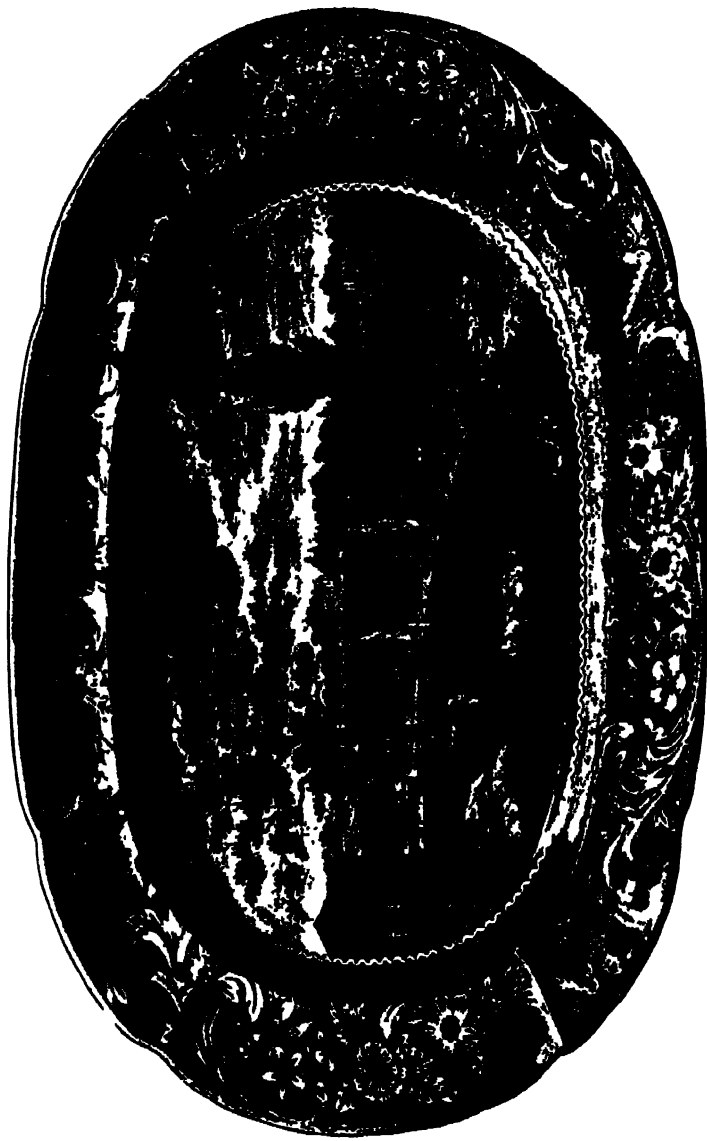
(Tams)

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temporary cities, reflected in their names and signs something of the characteristic quality of their frequenters. The "Crooked Billet Inn" was a public house which stood on the wharf at Water Street, and had the distinction of being the first house entered in Philadelphia, in 1723, by the young Benjamin Franklin, upon his arrival in the city. The "Pewter Platter Inn," with its sign a large pewter platter, became so famous that it gave its name to the alley at the corner of which it stood, obliterating that of "Jones." The "Bull's Head Tavern," with its sign of a bull's head, was so named from the fact of a bull thrusting his head through a window, the proprietor remarking that the fact and the sign might draw trade. There was the "Indian Queen," the "St. George and the Dragon," the "Cross Keys," the "Blue Lion," and, last but not least interesting, "The Man Loaded with Mischief," the sign portraying a man carrying his wife upon his back, an inn which stood in Spruce Street. Sign-painting was originally included among the finer arts, and it is related of Benjamin West that he did not disdain to put his talent to this form of work, a tavern sign done by him being considered of extreme merit. It represented upon one side in bright colors a man sitting on a bale holding up a glass of liquor as if looking through it; the other side showed two brewer's porters carrying a cask of beer slung with can hooks to a pole, which was the way beer was then carried out.

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One famous old Philadelphia inn is recorded in the pottery records, the United States Hotel, the excellent view of it being framed in an exquisite border of trees and foliage. This place is memorable for the fashionable "Assemblies" which at one time carried on their festivities within its walls. Old chronicles relate that as early as the year 1749, and continuing through the years when Philadelphia was the nation's capital, with the exception of the period of the Revolution, to quite recent years, the Assemblies were a prominent feature of the amusement season. Upon every Thursday evening throughout the winter, the fashionable folk gathered at the United States Hotel, arriving precisely at six o'clock. The ladies who came first had places assigned to them in the first set of the dance, later comers being distributed throughout the other sets, the cotillion, minuet, reels and the newly-introduced waltz being the forms of dancing then in vogue. Card games were also indulged in at these Assemblies, the two forms of amusement—dancing and card playing, being looked upon by the Quakers with kindlier eyes than performances at the theater. Supper was of the lightest order, chiefly being, we read, "something to drink," and by twelve o'clock the entire company were wending their way homeward through the quiet streets. Cards of admission to these functions, as well as the fashionable visiting cards of the day, were playing cards, no blank cards being brought to the colo-



MENDENHALL FERRY ON THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER, ABOVE PHILADELPHIA
(Stubbs)



VIEW OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE
(*Godwin*)

PHILADELPHIA OF PENN AND FRANKLIN

nies and nothing but playing cards imported for sale. The invitation, or the name and address, were written or printed upon the blank side of the card, the back presenting, as might chance, the effigy of the King of Hearts or the Queen of Clubs. The United States Hotel witnessed also scenes other than those of gayety. Upon a June morning of '75, a breathless messenger alighted before its door bringing the startling news that the first shot of war had been fired at Lexington; in the year '77, Lord Howe and his English soldiers being quartered upon the city of Philadelphia, and Washington and his army at Valley Forge, the weekly balls at the United States Hotel were a prominent feature of that "rollicking winter"; and upon an October morning of '81, another messenger arrived, bringing the word that Yorktown and Cornwallis had surrendered.

A sketch of but one of the many houses of worship of early Philadelphia was transferred to English pottery, that of Staughton's Church. The illustration exhibits a low built structure whose dome-shaped roof and thickly proportioned columns set between piers, in striking contrast to the tall spires and rectangular proportions which are the distinctive qualities of the early Boston and New York edifices, call to mind the Pantheon at Rome and present an excellent example of the classic influence which was beginning to make itself evident in American ecclesiastical architecture early in the nineteenth cen-

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tury. Staughton's church stood on Sampson Street, between 8th and 9th streets, and was erected in the year 1811, for the Rev. William Staughton, a Baptist clergyman of such strong personality that the edifice for many years retained his name. The rotunda was capable of seating 2500 people.

Fairmount Park, or Faire Mount, as it was originally called, is a picturesque tract of land bordering the Schuylkill River above the city, and has always been, as it is now, a favorite resort of Philadelphia citizens. William Penn fancied the locality, and had the intention of building himself a home there, writing in 1701 to a friend, "My eye is upon Faire Mount." The plate-decorations of Fairmount, one of them framed in the eagle and scroll border of the potter Stubbs and the others in the handsome wreath of mingled fruit and flowers, show a rolling expanse of country on the edge of the river, with two of the country homes of Philadelphians situated upon the opposite shore. The Schuylkill River at this point became the source of the city's supply of water. Philadelphia's first water supply came from the use of pumps, and not until after an epidemic of yellow fever, in 1793, was the project of the introduction of river water seriously broached, many of the citizens being reluctant to give up the ice-cold water from their wells for the tepid waters of the Schuylkill. Benjamin Franklin, the city's great and versatile benefactor,

PHILADELPHIA OF PENN AND FRANKLIN

early foresaw the need of a fresh supply of water for the city and recommended the Wissahickon Creek, the volume of which was proved inadequate. In the year 1813, river-water was made available, and in the following year there were nearly 3000 dwellings receiving the water from the Schuylkill at Fairmount; and when, in 1818, a steam engine was set in operation at the plant, the number rapidly increased.

After the construction of the Dam and the Power House for pumping water into a reservoir, these were the chief attractions of Fairmount, making of it a popular resort, the "glory of Philadelphia, combining beauty of scenery, usefulness of purpose and magnitude of design." The Philadelphia Dam and Waterworks are the subject of two old china decorations, one view with a side-wheel steamboat upon the water being here given; the other view, with a stern-wheel vessel in the foreground, is presented in the chapter upon Early Modes of Travel. In both illustrations, the dam across the river, the artificial fall of water and the pump-house may be seen, the last named being a white stone structure in the Doric style of architecture, the wings occupied by the offices of the company. The Waterworks were much frequented by Philadelphians, who drove out to spend a Sunday afternoon, bringing the children to play upon the grassy slopes, and every stranger in the city felt his visit incomplete without an excursion to Fairmount on

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the Schuylkill to examine the far-heralded plant. Lafayette was deeply impressed with the machinery at Fairmount, which was explained to him, remarking in his polite French way that he looked upon the Philadelphia Waterworks as a model of the American Government, "in which are found at once simplicity, economy and power." The city receiving-fountain of the Fairmount Waterworks was situated in Center Square, and, as may be seen in the print, was an ornamental structure of marble, its circular, dome-shaped upper story giving it the popular appellation of "pepper-box."

A number of interesting views of the suburbs about Philadelphia served as decorations for rich blue dinner sets. Owing to its mild and delightful climate and the country-loving inclinations of its citizens, suburban life became more of a feature of Philadelphia than of either Boston or New York, and many of the surrounding hills were dotted with handsome country homes. Glimpses of some of these homes may be had in the background of several of the sketches which have been reproduced, and one or two separate estates form the subject of an entire decoration,—“Woodlands,” for example, on the bank of the Schuylkill River, which was noted for its beautiful gardens. In Colonial times there were few bridges over the rivers, fording and ferrying being the usual modes of crossing. Pennsylvania, however, was an exception, and the bridges which were constructed over

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the many streams in the State became so numerous that Pennsylvania received the title of "the state of bridges." Several of these structures were very elaborate and expensive and enjoyed a fame beyond their immediate locality. Such was the "Upper Ferry Bridge" over the Schuylkill River, a view of which is afforded in the beautiful platter decoration. In this illustration may be seen one of the covered type of bridge which has now almost entirely disappeared from the country roads of America. It was erected in the year 1813, and was remarkable for its single arch of a span of 328 feet. At the right hand entrance to the bridge stands the once-famed Harding Tavern, while in the foreground may be seen an old-time covered Pennsylvania wagon drawn by six horses—both bridge and wagon being valuable records of early America.

Another country scene typical of suburban Philadelphia is that entitled, "Mendenhall Ferry," which illustrates a common mode of river-crossing in the early days—a rope ferry over the Schuylkill River a short distance above the city. The country homes of Joseph Sims and of Dr. Philip Syng Physick, the most celebrated surgeon of his time and known as "the father of American surgery," may be seen upon the hillsides in the background, while Mendenhall Inn, long a favorite resort of Philadelphians, occupies the left of the design.

CHAPTER V

EARLY BALTIMORE

LESS than a dozen views of early Baltimore are preserved upon blue china. The first one here presented is a harbor scene known to collectors as the harbor of Baltimore, but it is of disputed authenticity and resembles in its minaret-like spires some city of the Orient rather than a settlement of the young American Republic. The second harbor sketch is more probably taken from the original scene. In it two flagstaffs rise from a small wharf in the foreground, from which banners float—one of them displaying an anchor, and the other, the letter B. The water front of the city may be seen, with sailing vessels and small steamboats passing to and fro, and rows of low regular buildings lining the streets that run down to the river. Here and there a church spire or a monument towers above the roof line, those “spires and grove of vessels” which Lafayette remarked when he visited Baltimore in the year 1824. The French guest considered Baltimore one of the handsomest cities in the Union, with its streets so broad and regular, but without the monotony of the streets of Philadelphia. He was impressed with the elegance and delicacy of manners of

EARLY BALTIMORE

Baltimore's citizens, naturally ascribing the fact to the influence of their French blood; likewise, he was impressed with the beautiful buildings of the city, many of which had been designed by French architects. At the time of Lafayette's visit, Baltimore numbered about sixty thousand inhabitants.

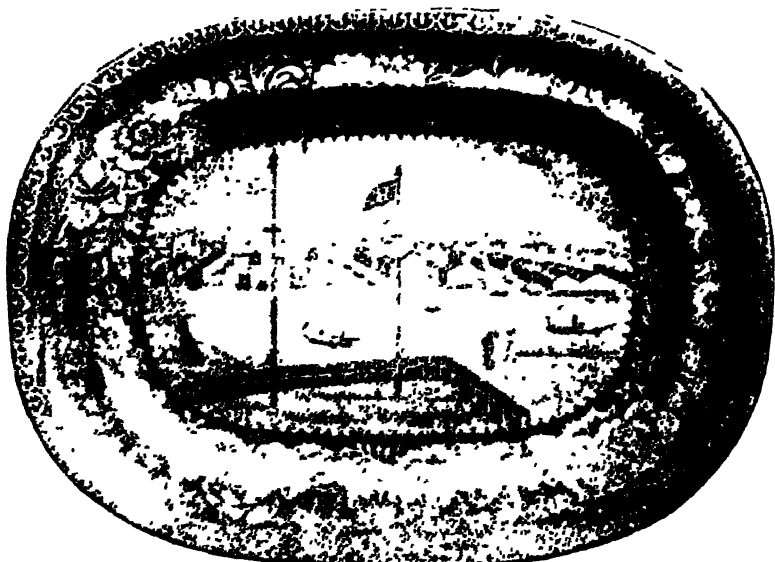
Baltimore is younger than the other cities of the United States which have already been considered. To be sure, fourteen years before the Pilgrim Fathers landed on the New England coast Captain John Smith had sailed up the Patapsco River and looked upon the site of the future city of Baltimore; and fifty-three years later, Lord Baltimore, who afterwards gave his name to the settlement, had come into the region; but not until the year 1730, was the city laid out. Originally, Baltimore consisted only of a group of plantations whose owners were engaged in tobacco raising for the English market—the Horn of Plenty and the full rigged vessel in Maryland's Coat of Arms (presented in a later chapter) symbolizing her agriculture and her commerce. For many years the taxes of Baltimore were paid in tobacco.

A sketch of Baltimore which was made in the year 1752 shows that the city then contained but twenty-five houses, four of them only being of brick. In the year 1756, there came to Baltimore from Nova Scotia that little band of French exiles of whom the poet Longfellow

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sings, "Friendless, homeless and hopeless, they wandered from city to city." Here many of them found a refuge and settled, a number of the old French names lingering in the present city. Of Colonial and early Republican Baltimore, Staffordshire pottery illustrations present the Court House, Exchange, Battle Monument, Hospital, Almshouse, University of Maryland and Masonic Hall, several of them framed in borders of unusual attractiveness. The Court House, which is not standing at the present time, a view of which could not be procured, was a large, square, dingy gray-stone pile built above a basement, with arches for openings, the structure resembling, an old citizen remarked, "a house perched upon a great stool." In the basement there stood during the strict Colonial years a whipping-post, stocks and pillory—instruments for the serving of the sentences imposed in the Hall of Justice above.

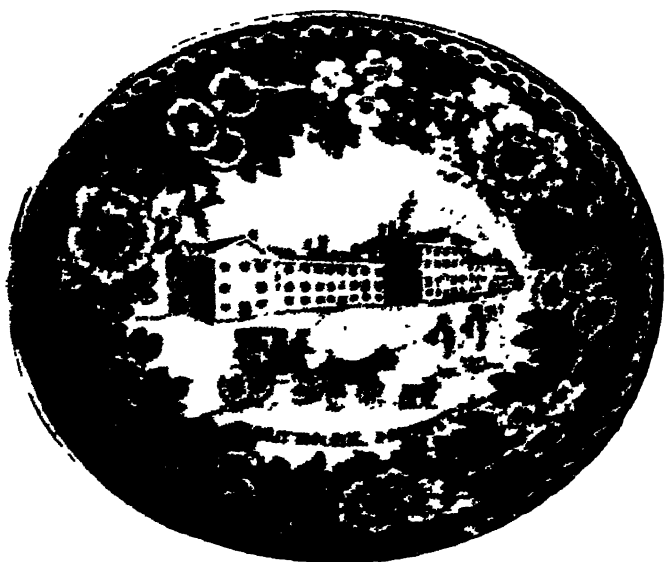
The view of the Baltimore Exchange is very rare. The Exchange was erected in the year 1820, and in the old times at a certain hour each day the merchants of Baltimore were accustomed to meet in its great Hall for the dispatch of business. The building excited much admiration in the early days, becoming famed as one of the handsomest establishments of its kind in the world. It faced as the illustration presents it, upon an open square, several shops or warehouses of old Baltimore being seen in its neighborhood,



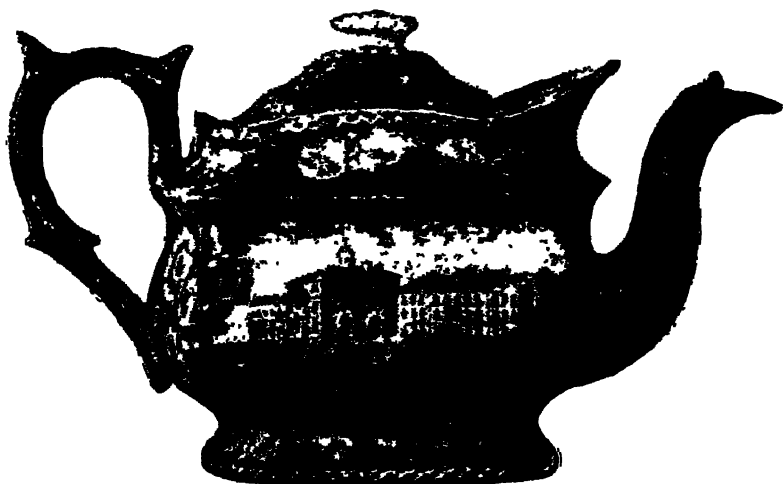
BALTIMORE
(*Unknown Maker*)



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
(*Unknown Maker*)



THE BALTIMORE HOSPITAL
(*Unknown Maker*)



THE BALTIMORE ALMSHOUSE
(*Unknown Maker*)

EARLY BALTIMORE

while a coach and pair typical of the period are driving by. Indeed, our gratitude goes out to the English artists not only for the exact and beautiful reproductions of the prominent buildings of Colonial America which they took pains to secure, but as well for the interesting and significant details of everyday life which they depicted. The border of fruits and flowers around this scene might have been copied, so close is the resemblance, from some old Flemish tapestry picturing an allegorical figure of Abundance.

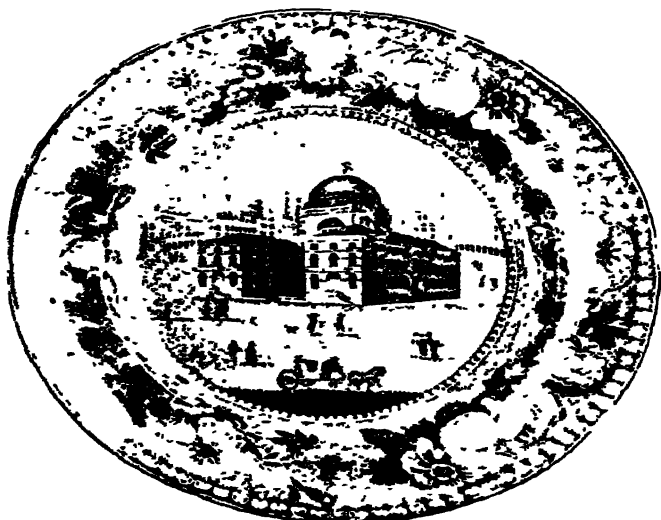
From the fact that a large number of columns adorn its public squares, Baltimore is known as the "Monument City," Lafayette remarking a century ago upon the number of her monuments, adding that the most beautiful one of them, the Washington monument, a white marble column 200 feet tall surmounted by a statue of the first president, called to his mind the lofty column in the Place Vendôme in Paris. Of the Battle Monument, which was erected in memory of the soldiers of Baltimore who fell in the War of 1812, an old chronicle records that on the day the corner-stone was laid a long procession of citizens passed through the streets of the city to Monument Square, a feature of the procession being a funeral car surmounted with a model of the intended shaft drawn by six white horses, caparisoned and led by six men in military uniform. The corner-stone is inscribed, "On the 12th day of September, 1815,

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in the fortieth year of Independence, James Madison being President, the Monument is dedicated to the memory of the brave defenders of the city." The monument, as a study of the illustration discloses, is of a peculiar style of architecture. The square base twenty feet high is of Egyptian type, the four corners of the pedestal being ornamented with sculptured griffins, and a door with inscriptions and reliefs being a feature of each front. The column is in the form of a bundle of Roman fasces, upon the bands of which are inscribed the names of those whom it commemorates; the whole is surmounted by a female figure, the emblematical genius of the city.

An elderly resident of Baltimore records the fact that the first hospital building was located on Franklin Street, near Calverton, outside the city limits, and that this foundation remained the city hospital until the year 1851, when Baltimore removed the institution within the municipality; the original structure is the one here presented. The poor of Baltimore, before a special home for them had been provided, were supported by a tax of tobacco. From the years 1812 to 1866, they were lodged in the spacious institution situated in the outskirts of the city which the potter-historians discovered and made subject for decoration.

The University of Maryland was founded at a much later date than the colleges of the northern cities which have been considered, having been chartered in the year



THE BALTIMORE EXCHANGE
(*Unknown Maker*)



BATTLE MONUMENT ERECTED TO THE HEROES OF 1812
(*Jackson*)



"STATES" DESIGN. (*Clews*)

Names of fifteen states—President's House—Washington Portrait

EARLY BALTIMORE

1807. The rather indistinct view of the University building which is presented upon the cup is of a dome-covered structure with a many-columned façade. Baltimore was the pioneer city in steam railway enterprise, as a later chapter will explain. One of her citizens, Peter Cooper, invented the first type of locomotive to be tried on rails in this country, the "Tom Thumb." Pictures also of the earliest engines in use upon the Baltimore and Ohio railway, one of the first roads in the country and one of the first highways into the great uncultivated region west of Baltimore, will be found in another chapter.

CHAPTER VI

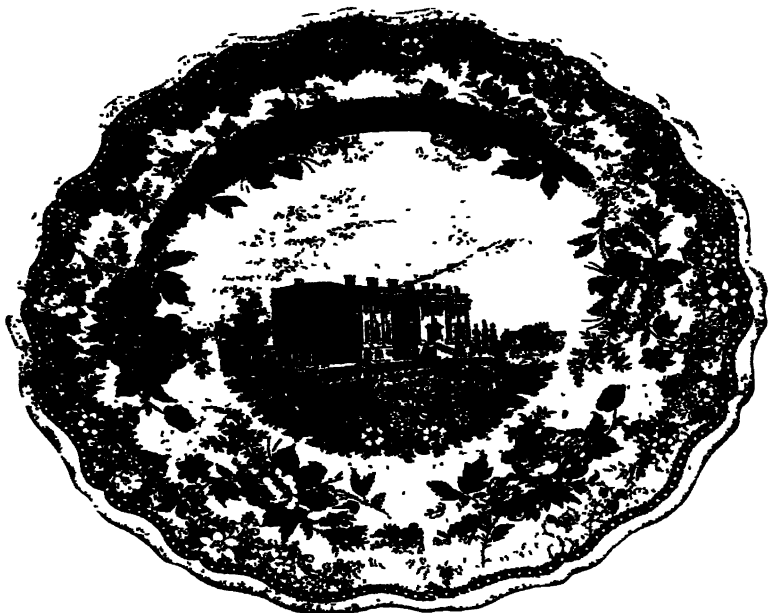
WASHINGTON, THE NEW CAPITAL

LIKE Philadelphia, Washington was carefully planned; unlike Philadelphia or any other city of the Union, Washington was built for a special purpose. The youthful Government of the United States was in need of a fitting home of its own, a city wherein its President and other officers of government might reside, and where Congress might meet and make the laws. The first President of the new Republic had taken the oath of office in New York, and for some time Congress had assembled in the State House in Philadelphia; but those cities, together with the others which the Union considered, were situated along the north Atlantic sea-coast out of ready touch with the States of the South, and for the most part, they were centers of growing commercial activity, with interests inclining towards trade and therefore unsuited to the business of government.

Where should the future Capital be located? The discussion aroused bitter controversy, the Northern States not wishing it placed too far south, and the South fearing it might be situated too far north to be mindful of the interests of the growing States of its own section.



PLAN OF CITY OF WASHINGTON
(Liverpool Pitcher)



THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE
Rebuilt after Being Burned—South Front
(Jackson)



EARLY VIEW OF THE CAPITOL FROM
THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE
(*Wood*)



SITE OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
(*Unknown Maker*)

WASHINGTON, THE NEW CAPITAL

At last, as a compromise, a plot of ground on the bank of the Potomac River was settled upon as being "as near as possible to the center of wealth, of population and of territory," and President Washington was chosen to select the site and to arrange for the building of the future Capitol. He called to his aid Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, and together the three settled upon the attractive situation with which we are familiar, an interesting view of which is presented upon a plate—the V-shaped rolling plain lying between the junction of the Potomac and its eastern branch.

The next step was to plan the new city, and the proposed design became such a widely debated topic that a drawing of it was carried over seas to the English potteries, and may be found to-day upon a yellow jug of Liverpool. Washington chose for the task of planning the new city a French resident of this country, Major l'Enfant, who carefully examined the site from all points, and, realizing the fact that he was creating a capitol not alone for thirteen States and three millions of people, but for a future mighty republic, he studied the plans of several of the beautiful cities of Europe—Rome, Paris, London, Venice. Jefferson told him that in his opinion none equaled the design of Philadelphia, "old Babylon revived"; but l'Enfant considered the chess-board effect of Philadelphia's streets too monotonous, his idea embracing three or four wide avenues running

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obliquely across the city in order to introduce pleasing curves and angles, as well as to render communication more ready.

L'Enfant's design, substantially as it appears in the illustration, was the one finally adopted. This charmingly executed drawing, full of significant details, is worthy of careful attention. Two graceful figures of women stand under the spreading branches of a tree holding aloft a scroll unrolled to view, above which is inscribed, "Plan of the City of Washington." The figure at the left, matronly and commanding, with the British emblem upon a shield at her feet, is supposedly Britannia; the other figure, designated America by a nearby eagle-adorned standard, is gazing interestedly upon the circular spot in the center of the design, presumably the site of the future Capitol of the new Republic, to which her elder sister is pointing with her finger as if in the act of explanation—or, possibly, considering the source of the production, may it not be admonition? The Capitol-site is upon the summit of a hill, with the President's house one mile away, down a broad avenue, or mall. Running east and west across the design are the many parallel streets which were named for the letters of the alphabet, A, B, C, and so on; while running north and south, at right angles to them, laid out in the drawing in prospective blocks, are other streets numbered 1, 2, 3, etc. Radiating from the Capitol and from

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the Executive Mansion, start sixteen wide avenues, named for the sixteen States which comprised the Republic in the year 1800. The avenues, as may be seen, cut the checkerboard at every variety of angle and form the squares, triangles and circles which render so beautiful the Washington of to-day. In the background of the illustration several sailing vessels appear upon a placid expanse of sea, while the foreground shows a bit of the "mille fleurs" pattern so popular in early decorative art.

Originally, the grounds of the Capitol and of the President's House extended to the banks of the Potomac, the "States" design reproduced in another chapter as well as the view of the President's mansion here given indicating its lawn sloping to the river's edge. An equestrian statue of Washington as an historic column from which all distances on the continent were to be calculated, five fountains and a grand cascade were among the features of the original plan which either were omitted or altered. The new city unanimously received the name of the first President and of its founder, Washington.

In the year 1793 the Capitol and the President's House were begun, and for several years thereafter the growing city was but a huge workshop, when long lines of teams might have been seen hauling blocks of Virginia sandstone from the river-landing to the places where the new structures were rising. As soon as the walls of the Capitol were laid, sculptors and skilled

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artisans were summoned from Europe to chisel the ornaments upon them; finally, in the autumn of 1800, one wing was sufficiently completed for the use of Congress, and a "packet sloop" sailed up the river bearing to their new home the public records and furniture of the Government. At the same time, the President's House, though not completed, was put in the best order possible for the occupation of President Adams; in the meanwhile, George Washington, the founder, having passed away at Mount Vernon, before his eyes could look upon the government of his nation housed in the city he had planned.

Mrs. Adams was the first lady of the Executive Mansion, and her letters give us charming pictures of the young capital city, then numbering about three thousand inhabitants, and of the beginnings of its official life. On her way to her new home she drove from Baltimore; "woods are all you see from Baltimore until you reach the city—which is only so in name," she wrote to a friend. But, in spite of the slight progress it had made in the twelve years of its existence, Mrs. Adams calls Washington a beautiful spot, and adds, "The more I view it, the more I am delighted with it." Pennsylvania Avenue, which now sweeps so stately from the Capitol to the White House, was, in the year 1800, mostly a deep morass covered with alder bushes, fine buildings being few and far apart, the roads muddy and sidewalks al-

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most unknown. It is not to be wondered that disgusted statesmen wrote home to their families that the new home of the Government was "A Wilderness City," "A City of Streets without Houses," "A City of Magnificent Distances," "A Mud Hole," etc.

Northern journals stirred up feeling against the Capital, reviling its lonely situation and its slow growth. "The national bantling, called the city of Washington," they said, "remains after ten years of expensive fostering a rickety infant unable to go alone." "There sits the President," they went on, "like a pelican in the wilderness, or a sparrow upon the housetop"; they attempted, however, without success, to have the "bantling" removed to Baltimore.

In August, 1814, before the city had been completed, the War of 1812 was nearing its close, and to Washington came the British soldiers to destroy—a deed of reprisal inspired and executed by remembrance of the destruction of the Government buildings of York, the capitol of Canada, by the soldiers of General Pike. A company of redcoats reached the Capitol about six o'clock in the evening, and for sport they fired volleys into the windows; they trooped into the Hall of the House of Representatives and held a mock session: "Shall this harbor of Yankee democracy be burned? All for it say 'Aye'!" was the question. There was no opposition. "Ayes" and cheers rang out, books and papers from the

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Library of Congress, desks and chairs were heaped for fuel, and within half an hour the beautiful edifice was in ruins, the bare walls only remaining erect. On to the President's House the British soldiers went, hoping to find President Madison and his wife, whom they wished "to exhibit in England," but the doors were locked and the occupants, taking with them the document of the Declaration of Independence and a portrait of Washington, had fled. A torch was applied, and the mansion together with all its furnishings was burned; the Patent Office, the Post Office, a hotel and a few dwellings only escaped the general destruction of the city. "The world is speedily to be delivered of a Government founded on democratic rebellion" was the approving comment of a London journal upon the incident.

The sketches for the old-china illustrations of the Capitol and the President's House were made soon after the city was rebuilt, for, notwithstanding their work of demolition, the British were among the first to picture the glories of the restored capital city of the young Republic. No less than six potters used prints of the Capitol, the handsomest building in America at the time Staffordshire pottery was made—a distinction which in its present enlarged form, keeping pace with the Republic's growth and importance, it proudly holds to the present day—and in them it may be seen rebuilt and remodeled, more imposing than before its ruin by fire. But the

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work of restoration had been slow, the autumn of 1819 seeing the Sixteenth Congress in possession of the new wings only, the main portion being yet incomplete. In the year 1824, Lafayette found workmen still engaged upon the building. At the time of the distinguished Frenchman's visit the city had a population of thirteen thousand, but "it was not rare," he recorded, "to see a plough tracing a furrow along Pennsylvania Avenue." As late as the year 1842, Charles Dickens, after his visit to Washington, wrote that "its streets begin in nothing and lead nowhere."

The illustration of the Capitol which is here shown ¹ is of unusual interest, being taken from a sketch made about the year 1830, and presenting but the kernel of the present structure, before the addition of dome and extended wings. In this view, the lines of the Capitol bear a resemblance to the City Hall in New York, its pilastered wings, columned entrance and approach of many steps exhibiting those characteristic details which make of the Capitol one of the best examples of the revival of classic influence in architecture, known in America as Colonial, to be found in the United States. In place of the proud group of structures which at the present time share with it the imposing hill-top site, the Capitol is here portrayed surrounded with a grassy lawn set with spreading trees, the large tree in the foreground no

¹ As the frontispiece.

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doubt being intended for the Washington Elm which was planted by the first President. In the foreground, two equestrian figures gowned in the styles of the day are pictured as pointing with their riding whips to the great foundation. The Capitol dome, for which the present structure is justly famed, required eight years of labor to erect. As one approaches the city of Washington and looks upon the airy dome lightly soaring above the roof-tops of the city, the scene calls to mind distant views of Florence dominated by Brunelleschi's famous cathedral dome, or of St. Peter's seen from the Pincian Hill in Rome. But, proclaiming it a product and expression of another system of government, from its summit springs a colossal figure of Freedom, represented as a goddess, her feet resting upon a globe inscribed *E PLURIBUS UNUM*, the motto of the United States, her head bound with a circlet of stars, and crowned with eagles' plumes. The inner walls of the great dome, or Rotunda, are decorated with mural paintings which illustrate scenes of the pioneer history of America.

The President's House, as exhibited in the view upon the plate, presents the appearance it did soon after it was rebuilt about a century ago—"a very simple building, but in good taste," was Lafayette's comment as he viewed it. Here one sees a substantial structure of Virginia sandstone, designed after the approved Colonial style of the period, with a formally laid-out garden of walks and

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parterres at the entrance, or south front, which was originally planned as the main entrance—the growth of the city changing it later on to the north side. To cover the marks of the fire upon the blackened walls, white paint was used when the mansion was rebuilt—the fact which gave to it the popular, and later on the official, title of White House. At the present time, although enriched with the addition of a portico and a colonnade, the home of our Presidents is fittingly defined by the modest phrase of the observing Frenchman.

A visit to the capital city to-day is not complete without an ascent of Washington Monument, the imposing pile erected in memory of the founder of the city, the first President. Lining the interior as one ascends the shaft may be seen marble tablets set in the walls, each one engraved with the name of the donor—State or society which from all parts of the world contributed them as memorials to Washington. From the summit, one is able to comprehend the plan of the city, locating the Capitol and the White House, with the connecting, but still unfinished, Mall, and the Government buildings; tracing the parallel streets and intersecting avenues spread out to view as upon a map; noting also, in this city dedicated solely to the uses of the government of a great nation, the absence of all those signs of industry and of commerce which are such prominent features in the illustrations of the cities previously considered.

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Finally, the gaze of the beholder wanders over the beautiful stretch of valley, down the broad sweep of the Potomac, until it rests upon Mount Vernon, the spot where, nestling in the dusky grove of cypresses, are the modest home and tomb of the city's and the nation's founder.

Washington is destined to lead in beauty all other American cities, and when l'Enfant's original plan shall one day be carried to completion, with its glorious Mall, lined on either side with suitable structures, sweeping majestically from the President's Mansion up the hill to the Capitol, as its characteristic feature, it will, as its founder and designer dreamed, vie in distinction with the renowned cities of the world.

PART II

**THE AMERICAN NATION-BUILDERS AND
THEIR WORK**

CHAPTER VII

PIONEERS OF AMERICA

IF you are fond of romance, read history,"—the counsel of the learned Frenchman applies with special force to the stories of America's pioneers, for the true record of their adventures surpasses in marvels the fanciful imaginings of the weavers of romance. Out of the long list of achievements of those adventurous spirits of many lands who, from motives of conquest, exploration or home-making, braved the perils of unknown seas and came to America, the English potters selected but three incidents to illustrate and reproduce upon the sets of tableware destined for this young Republic—the Landing of Christopher Columbus, the Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, and the Treaty of William Penn with the Indians.

The first series of views, numbering nine or more from the pottery works of Adams in Tunstall, Staffordshire, are fanciful sketches of the Landing of Christopher Columbus in America. Printed in red, green, purple, or black, upon plates and platters, the designs portray a wilderness inlet, with two, sometimes three, caravels at anchor in the bay, and small boats coming from them to the

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

shore. Columbus is represented upon the beach, together with one or more of his Spanish companions; and native redmen in picturesque costumes are in hiding behind clumps of trees and shrubs. Tents and dogs are also in evidence, and upon one plate, here presented, an Indian is shooting at a wild goose. The border of the series consists of a pattern of roses, alternating with scrolls framing tiny landscape scenes, wherein roam wild deer and moose—animals native to the Western Continent. The trees and foliage of the Columbus series are tropical—tall cocoanut palms with fruit among the leaves, broad-leaved banana plants and other growths of the southland which Columbus found; for the English potters, like Columbus, long imagined the entire length of the Western Hemisphere one stretch of tropic or Oriental wilderness.

Indeed, the beliefs of European peoples of the fifteenth century, in which Columbus lived, in regard to the earth seem at the present time extremely curious. The marvelous tales which Marco Polo and his father had brought to Europe a century before from their journey into the Far East, and the glitter of the diamonds, emeralds, rubies and pearls which fell from out their coats when the seams were opened at a famous dinner party in Venice, still dazzled the minds of men. To find a shorter and less dangerous route to that kingdom which Marco had discovered in Cathay, ruled over by a Tartar

PIONEERS OF AMERICA

Khan who dwelt in a palace roofed with plates of gold, was the dream of every seaman. Wise men were saying, as some of the ancient Greeks had done, that the earth was a sphere or a pear-shaped object rather than the flat surface they had been taught to believe it—why not, then, to the west instead of to the east, might lie the shore of India where dwelt the lordly Khan? Thus Columbus argued, and his final doubt was removed when a learned man of Florence sent him a globe and a chart, both plainly marked with the western route to the eastern shores “where the spices grow.”

But when Columbus laid his plan of sailing westward in search of India before King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, the learned company which they called together to question him declared that it would take three years of sailing to reach this far-off shore, and that the sailors would die of starvation before they came to it. “Is any one so foolish to believe,” they asked, “that there are antipodes with their feet opposite to ours; people who walk with their heels upward and their heads hanging down? Where trees grow with their branches downwards, and where it rains, hails and snows upwards?” Several of them objected that should a ship at last succeed in reaching India, it would be impossible for it to climb up the rotundity of the globe and get back again.

Familiar to all is the story of the three caravels, how they were fitted out in the harbor of Palos in Spain, the

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

Queen selling her jewels to obtain the necessary funds for the expedition, and how Columbus and his companions, after prayers were said for their safety, sailed out amid the tears and cheers of their friends, into the unknown waste of sea.

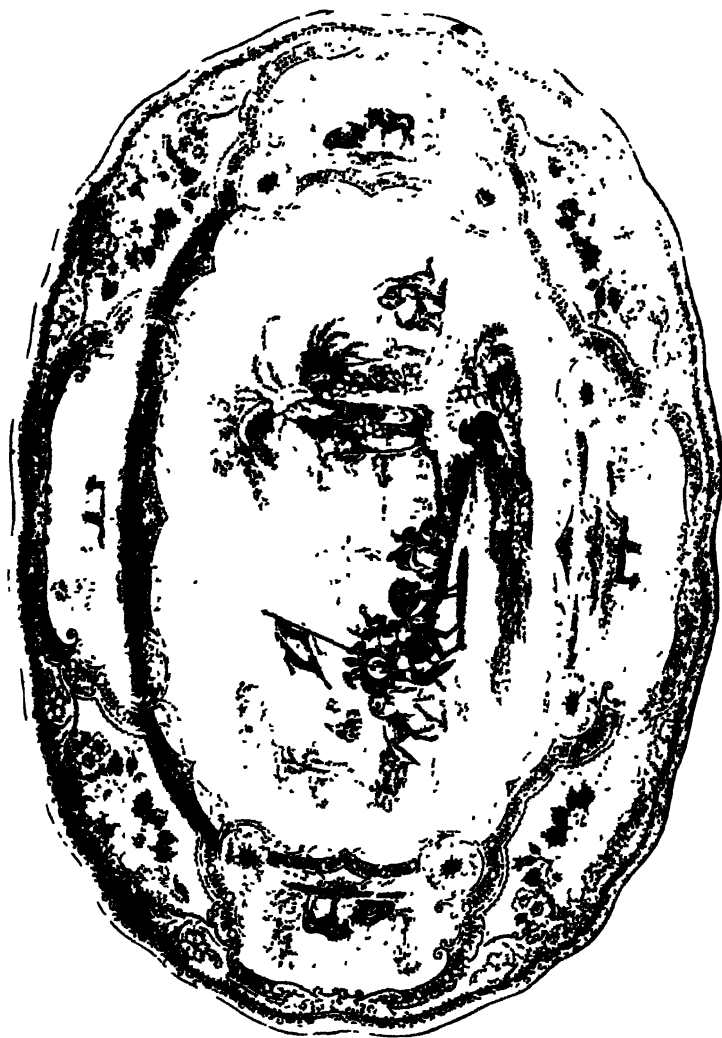
At last the morning of October 12, in the year 1492, dawns. Upon the plate the hero is pictured stepping upon the far-off shore, the ten weeks of sailing into the trackless West, of watching for signs of land, of cheering the disheartened spirits of his men at an end, his dreams come true. Two of the Spanish caravels ride at anchor in the harbor, a small boat filled with their men approaching shore. This to them is a new country and these are a strange people who greet them—Indians, Columbus names them—upon whose naked bodies gleam rude ornaments of gold, and who crouch in fear behind the trees, bows and arrows in their hands ready for defense. Is not this a part of the kingdom of Kublai Khan—perhaps the island of Cimpango (Japan) which Marco told about? Columbus, as the illustrated platter shows, comes ashore arrayed in scarlet clothes, the royal ensign in his hands. Behind him follow his men, some bearing crosses, others holding aloft the standard of the enterprise—a green banner embroidered with crowns and the letters F and Y, the initials of Spain's rulers Fernando and Ysabel. Columbus kneels, kisses the ground and draws his sword in the name of Spain, call-



THE LANDING OF THE FATHERS AT PLYMOUTH
(*Enoch Wood*)



LANDING OF THE PILGRIMS
(*Enoch Wood*)



LANDING OF COLUMBUS—CAVALRY VIEW
(*Adams*)

PIONEERS OF AMERICA

ing the land in honor of their safe arrival, San Salvador—now Watling's Island.

The Spaniards are no less objects of wonder to the natives. Observe them in the picture peering from behind the palm trees at the marvelous beings who, as they believe, have flown down from the sky in their winged boats. They come out from their hiding places and touch the beards and armor and dress of the Spaniards, and they gladly exchange their golden ornaments for the gay caps, beads and bells which are offered them. When asked where the gold comes from, they point to the south and say that a great king lives there who is so rich that he is served in vessels of gold—surely, thinks Columbus, the “Khan” of Marco's tales.

After building a rude fort and a few huts on the nearby Island of Haiti, Columbus left a number of his men to search the island for gold, while he himself sailed back to Spain. Upon his arrival, he arranged a procession of American Indians bearing palm branches and gayly colored parrots—Indians and palms and parrots all brought by him from the new world he had discovered. The procession wound its way through the crowded streets of Barcelona to Ferdinand and Isabella, who were seated upon a throne in the open air, under a canopy of gold brocade, and there Columbus related his adventures.

It may be a surprise to find horses pictured in one

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Columbus view, but Columbus tells us in his journal that upon his second voyage to the new land he brought Spanish horses, as well as other animals, in the little caravels. His men rode the horses into the interior of the island to visit the gold mines in the mountains, and the natives upon seeing them believed them a new kind of being, the horse and rider one animal, and great was their astonishment when the men dismounted. Of the subsequent adventures of Columbus in his later journeys to America the potter-historians have left no record, but the remainder of the tale, which the pictured dishes have given us an eager desire to learn, may be found in the delightful diary of his daily life in the Western Hemisphere which Columbus kept for Queen Isabella.

Although Columbus, by finding land to the west, had the good fortune to solve "the mystery of the age," to the end of his life he never knew that he had discovered a world. But another mystery, one which in his time puzzled the minds of scholars, Columbus believed he had cleared—the whereabouts of the Garden of Eden. Wise men had located the home of our first parents in various parts of Asia; Dante in his Divine Comedy had placed it upon a mountaintop in the midst of the southern ocean; Columbus, one day while coasting the northern shore of South America, was almost capsized by a swift flood of fresh water which poured out of the land and, as he said, "sweetened the sea." He believed that this

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flood, now known as the Orinoco River, descended from a great height of land which was the summit of the pear-shaped earth, and that this river had its origin in the Fountain which springs from the Tree of Life, in the midst of the Garden of Eden.

THE LANDING OF THE PILGRIMS

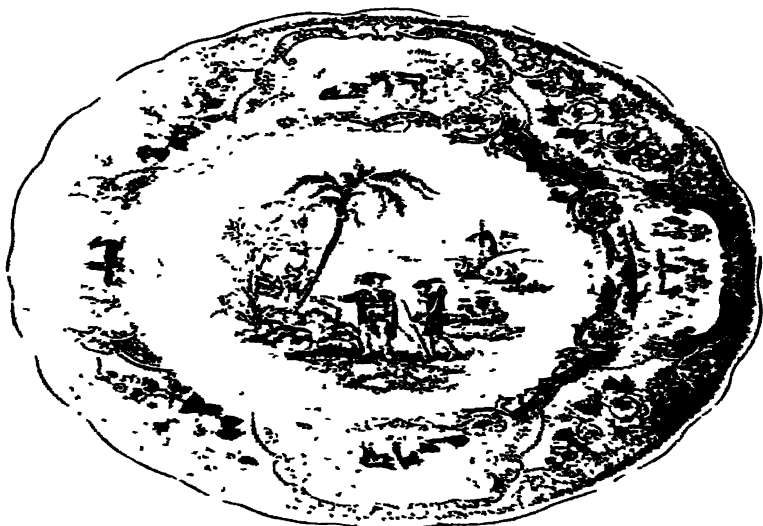
The second romance of pioneer America which is recorded in the pottery decorations is also a "Landing" scene, but, in place of a gayly clad hero joyfully claiming a new world for a royal crown, here is pictured a small band of English Pilgrims struggling in a stormy sea to draw their shallop upon the "rockbound coast" of New England. Out at anchor in the bay rides the small, three-masted sailing vessel, the *Mayflower*, which after a cold, bleak voyage of 63 days has brought the company of 102 brave souls from the Old World to seek in this untried wilderness of the New, freedom to worship God, not according to the laws of a king, but in response to the dictates of their own consciences.

Upon leaving the harbor of Plymouth, in England, the Pilgrims wished to find homes near the Delaware River, but had been driven by storms far to the north, sighting first the land of Cape Cod, where they decided to embark. Two days after reaching the site of their future homes, on November 11, 1620, the *Mayflower's* company, wishing to "combine together in one body and

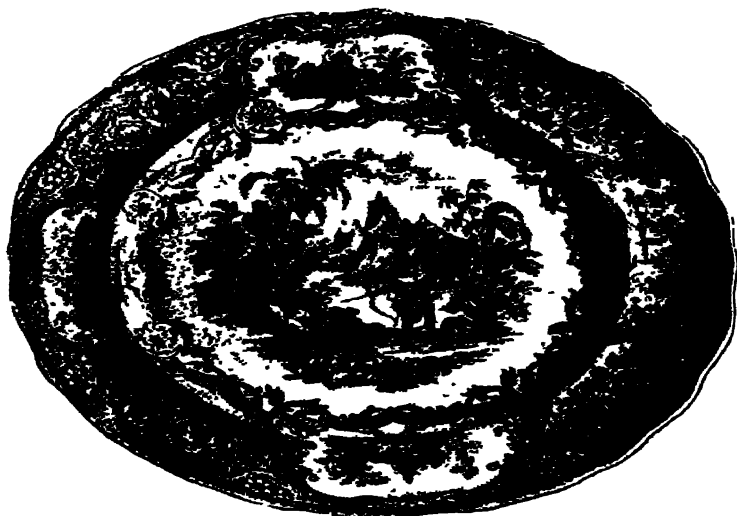
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

to submit to such government and governors as we should by common consent make and choose," signed a Compact in the cabin, pledging themselves faithfully to keep what laws should be made—the first Declaration of Independence in America and the herald of that freedom in matters of government which has made of this country a Promised Land. After five weeks of exploration, the *Mayflower* reached the shore of Plymouth, the excellent bay, the wooded hills and pleasant streams which they discovered deciding the party to land; a bowlder protected by an ornamental shelter to-day marks the spot upon which the Pilgrims first set foot in America.

In the illustration, may be seen John Alden, "the youngest of those who came in the *Mayflower*," stepping first upon the rock. The two Indians standing on shore, one of them with arms outstretched as if in welcome, are no doubt intended by the artist to represent Samoset and Squanto, who unexpectedly appeared at the new settlement and astonished the people by saying in the excellent English which they had learned from earlier comers: "Welcome, Englishmen! Welcome, Englishmen!" and who, after a treaty had been arranged between Miles Standish and the Indian tribes, proved of great service in teaching the Pilgrims the ways of life in the strange wilderness. Upon the rock, may be read, "Carver, Bradford, Winslow, Brewster and Standish,"—five of the most famous names of that little company who, as



LANDING OF COLUMBUS—TWO CARAVELS
(*Adams*)



COLUMBUS—INDIAN SHOOTING WILD GOOSE
(*Adams*)



LANDING OF COLUMBUS

(Blue and White Wedgwood Pitcher, in the
Dickins Collection, National Museum,
Washington, D. C.)

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William Bradford said, "agreed to walk together" in this new land. The border of the design comprises a sketch of the national eagle, together with scrolls encircling the later historic dates, "America Independent, July 4, 1776," and "Washington Born 1732, Died 1799."

John Carver was chosen the first Governor of the English colony, and before the first spring came round a row of low, thatched-roofed, log-houses lined one side of the street bordering the bay, the residence of the Governor inclosed in a square blockade upon the opposite side, and atop the neighboring hill a fort fortified for defense; a meeting-house and a store-house had also been built. But the first spring saw likewise the graves of over one-half the band who had come in the *Mayflower*, John Carver's among the number, the cold and privations of the wilderness being more than they were able to endure; but, "It is not with us as with men whom small things can discourage or small discontentments cause to wish themselves home again," Elder Brewster said, speaking for the entire company. To succeed Governor Carver, they selected for Governor William Bradford, who remained in that office for 37 years. As the months went by, however, other vessels brought to them from England new companions and fresh stores of provisions, and renewed courage was theirs to establish firmly their own and other colonies along the Massachusetts coast.

Two hundred years after the Landing of the Pilgrim

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Fathers, in the year 1820, the specimens of tableware pictured in the illustrations were made in the pottery of Enoch Wood, in Staffordshire, being parts of dinner-sets which at that time were sent over to this country in large quantities as souvenirs of the many celebrations of the bi-centennial. Much dining and speech-making in honor of the historic Landing took place that year throughout the United States, the principal festivities being held in Plymouth, Massachusetts, the scene of the original incident. And the banquet, at which Daniel Webster made one of his most famous addresses, was served upon one of the souvenir dinner-sets, the guests, as they listened to the speaker's eloquent periods, looking down upon the pictured scene which was the theme of his inspiration.

We as a nation owe much to this little group of Puritan Fathers, which is so quaintly presented upon the old blue dishes—the deep Christian faith which they brought with them, the love of freedom, the respect for law—convictions which took firm root and flourished bravely in the fresh New England soil. And later on, from out that Massachusetts colony of noble men and women there sprang and grew to manhood those regiments of fearless and liberty-loving patriots who, in Revolutionary times, laid so strong and deep the foundations of the American Republic. With Daniel Webster upon that notable anniversary day, we would ask:

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“Who would wish that his country’s existence had otherwise begun?”

WILLIAM PENN’S TREATY WITH THE INDIANS

One Staffordshire potter, Thomas Green, who potted between the years 1847–59, at Fenton, England, seems to have made use of but a single episode of American history for the decoration of the ware which he shipped across the sea to his American patrons—the famous Treaty of Shackamaxon, which his compatriot, William Penn, concluded with the tribes of Indians who roamed the forests about his new settlement of Philadelphia. As many as a dozen variants of the “Penn’s Treaty” scene have been found in recent years, printed upon plates in the colors of the later period of Staffordshire manufacture—red, black, brown, green, pink and light blue—the border of the series being a delicate pattern of small diamond-shaped figures arranged to imitate open-work.

The sketches used in the Thomas Green pottery, two of which are presented, are the product of the imagination of English draughtsmen, who held somewhat vague ideas as to the character of American scenery. The fact of the Treaty being held under an elm tree is a tradition so well established that dispute is futile, the spreading elm pictured in old prints upon the bank of the Delaware River taking its place in the galaxy of the

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world's historic trees. Nevertheless, in these sketches Penn and his companions are represented in Quaker garb, the artist having omitted to designate the blue silk sash with which, tradition says, Penn was girt about the waist upon the occasion, standing under a tall cocoanut palm tree conspicuously laden with fruit. In the background Eastern pagodas may be seen, one of them sheltering a group of squatting squaws. Upon one Treaty plate, Penn himself may be found in the robe of an oriental mandarin—palms, pagodas, and robe all proofs of the prevalent English belief as late as but a century ago in the tropical and oriental character of the world which Columbus discovered, an idea difficult, it seems, to efface from the European mind, which for so long had been nourished upon the adventures of Marco Polo and other eastern travelers who cherished the belief of the western route to India. Penn is represented holding the parchment Treaty in his hand, Indians in fanciful costumes, with beautiful head-dresses, are conversing with him, one of the braves extending his hand as if about to receive the document.

Another "Treaty" scene, printed by an unknown potter upon a porcelain plate, is a reproduction of one of Benjamin West's famous paintings of the historic incident. Herein, a tall branching tree, supposedly the elm, is represented as sheltering a small assemblage of Indians and Quakers, while Penn stands in the center

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of the group pointing to the document, which is being examined by the braves in the foreground. The background presents a row of buildings. Benjamin West lived in Philadelphia sufficiently early in its history to have heard the direct tradition of the Treaty, and in one of his paintings of the subject he drew the portrait of his grandfather as one of the group of Friends attendant upon Penn, history recording the fact that he was present upon the occasion—a fact which, it is said, inspired West to become a painter of the subject. The English characters in West's paintings were all intended to be resemblances and were so far true to life that at least one old-time citizen of Philadelphia could name them all. Much to the regret of early Philadelphians, however, Penn neglected truth so far as to have omitted the river scenery; to have given a wrong impression of the form of the Treaty tree; and to have put into the background a range of houses "which were certainly never exactly found at Shackamaxon." But his critics declared the extenuating circumstances that the artist was in England at the time he executed the paintings, and therefore could have no picture of the scene before his eyes.

A careful study of all of the designs, however, displays neglect of the actual scene upon that historic occasion. Each artist has failed to put into his picture those crescent-shaped groups of redmen who, as Penn

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records, seated themselves in the open air by the river's side, in solemn audience upon that autumn day in the year 1682, "according to the mode of their ancestors, under a grove of shady trees, where the little birds on the boughs were warbling their sweet notes." In the front row, sat the chiefs of the tribes with their wise men beside them; behind these, in the form of another half moon, sat the middle aged men; and, in the same form, still farther back, the "young fry."

None spoke but the aged. One may picture to himself the solemn air with which Penn arose and presented to Tawenna, the Chief Sachem, the roll of parchment—that treaty "which was not sworn to and never broken." After the terms of the treaty had been explained by an interpreter, Penn admonished the Indians to preserve the parchment carefully for three generations, that their children might know what had passed between them just as if he had remained to repeat it.

Thereupon, the Chief Tawenna slowly rose and offered to Penn, in exchange for the parchment, a Belt of Peace, at the same time declaring with great solemnity that "all Penn's people and all the Indians shall be brothers of one father, joined together as with one heart, one head and one body; that all the paths shall be open free to both; that the doors of Christian houses and the wigwams of the Indians shall be open and the people shall make one another welcome; that they shall

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not believe false rumors of one another, but, when heard, they shall bury them in a bottomless pit; that no harm shall be done, one to another; that complaints of wrong doing shall be made by either side; and, finally, that both Christians and Indians shall acquaint their children with the league and chain of friendship, and that it shall always be made stronger and be kept bright and clean, without rust or spot, between our children and children's children, while the creeks and rivers run, and while the sun, moon and stars endure."

This famous Indian Belt of Peace is now in the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, as it was brought over from England in the year 1857 by a great-grandson of William Penn, and presented to the Society. The belt is woven of eighteen strings of wampum, or beads made from muscle shells which grow upon the shores of our Southern States. It is twenty-six inches long and nine inches wide, the color being white, which signifies that it is a Peace Belt. In the center, two figures made of violet beads are represented—one, an Indian, is grasping in friendship the hand of another man, a European, known by the fact that he has a hat on his head! The Indian belts were the customary public records of the tribes and were preserved by them in chests; they were taken out occasionally, and the words spoken again which were spoken at the time of their giving.

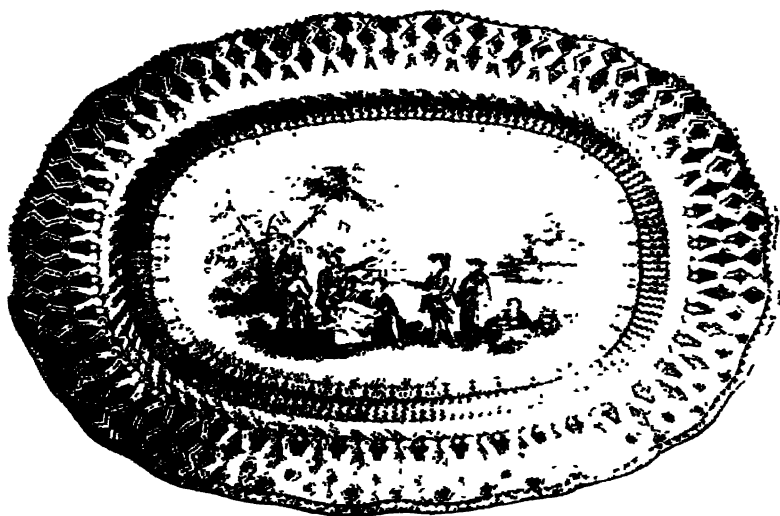
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

In this manner, as the old-china records call to mind, under the elm tree was cemented that friendship between the Pennsylvania pioneers and their savage neighbors, which made possible the growth and prosperity of Penn's City of Brotherly Love. For more than a century after the Treaty, the historic elm stood upon the river bank, always cared for in the midst of the busy scenes of the wharf. In the later years of his life, Benjamin West wrote of the tree: "This tree, which was held in the highest veneration by the original inhabitants of my native country, by the first settlers, and by their descendants, and to which I well remember, about the year 1755, when a boy, often resorting with my school fellows, was in some danger during the American War, when the British possessed the country, from parties sent out in search of wood for firing; but the late General Simcoe, who had the command of the district where it grew (from a regard for the character of William Penn, and the interest he took in the history connected with the tree), ordered a guard of British soldiers to protect it from the axe. This circumstance the General related to me, in answer to my inquiries, after his return to England."

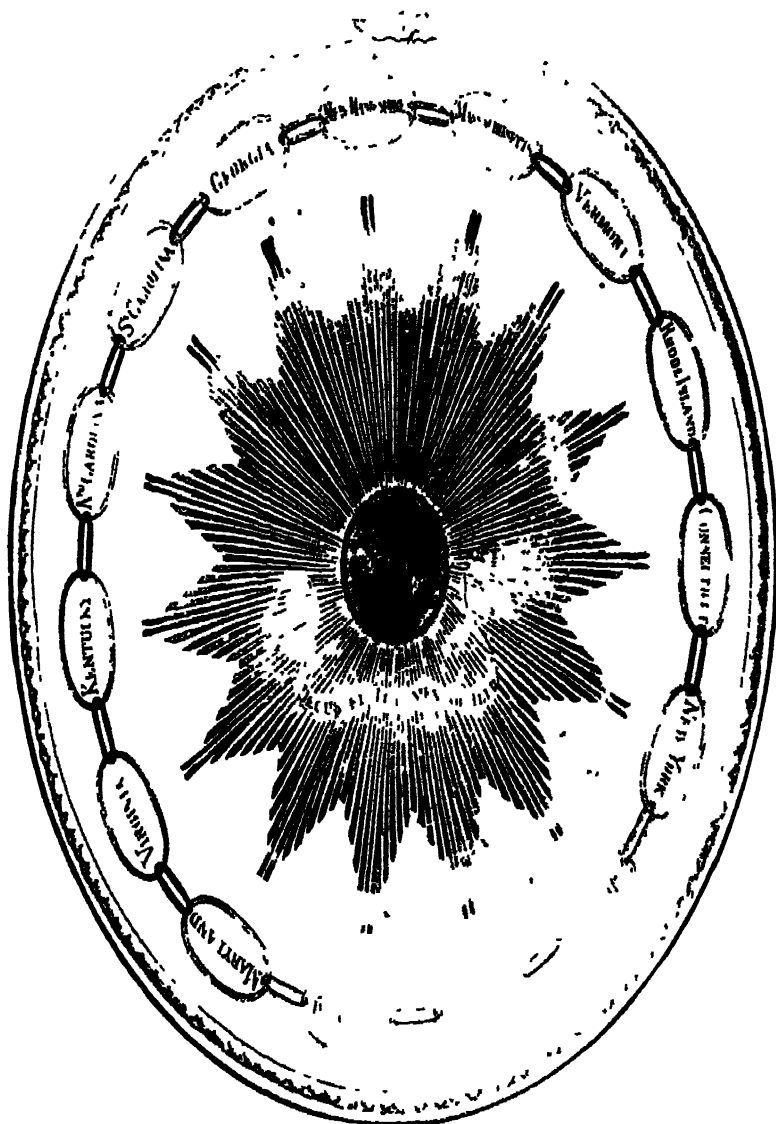
Upon a Saturday night in March, in the year 1810, the elm was blown down in a storm, the root being wrenched and the trunk broken off. Upon the following day, many hundreds of people visited the spot to



WILLIAM PENN'S TREATY WITH THE INDIANS
(T. G.)



PENN'S TREATY
(T. G.)



MARTHA WASHINGTON STATES' PLATE

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look upon it. The tree is described as having been remarkably wide spread, but not lofty, its main branches which inclined toward the river measuring 150 feet in length, its girth 24 feet and its age, as counted by the circles of annual growth, 283 years. Many souvenirs were made from the wood, chairs, desks, picture frames, etc. Its most fitting memorial, however, was a descendant of the tree itself, grown from a stripling, which until the year 1841, flourished in the lawn of the Pennsylvania Hospital, no doubt one of the trees to be seen in the illustration of that institution which has been presented in a former chapter. A marble monument has since been erected near the site of the original elm, the inscription upon its four sides being, "Treaty Ground of William Penn and the Indian Nations, 1682, Unbroken Faith; William Penn, Born 1644, Died, 1718; Placed by the Penn Society, A. D. 1827, to mark the site of the Great Elm Tree; Pennsylvania Founded, 1681, by Deeds of Peace." A commemorative poem to the Treaty Elm, written by a loyal Philadelphian of history-loving bent, closes with these lines:

Tho' Time has devoted our Tree to decay,
The sage lessons it witness'd survive to our day,
May our trustworthy statesmen, when call'd to the helm,
Ne'er forget the wise Treaty held under our Elm.

CHAPTER VIII

GEORGE WASHINGTON

SCARCELY a person in Europe or America a century and more ago was unfamiliar with the features of George Washington, or unacquainted with the principles and actions of his life. Therefore, in their efforts for trade put forth by appealing to the patriotic pride of the Americans, the potters could have selected no more popular subject of design than the beloved features of "Liberty's Favorite Son"; of him who in the hearts of loyal Americans, as a Liverpool pitcher affirms, was "A Man without Example, a Patriot without Reproach"; or, as an old punch-bowl declares, "First in War, First in Peace" and "First in Fame, First in Virtue."

The list of pieces of pottery and porcelain which exhibit the name or portrait of Washington is longer than that of ceramics bearing any other American design, and includes specimens both of the deep blue pottery of Staffordshire manufacture and of the black-printed yellow wares of Liverpool. Numerous prints of his face, some seemingly imaginary, others copies of well-known paintings, are reproduced; his home at Mount Vernon

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is pictured; his monument; his tomb and funeral urn; the names of the States which he called into being are festooned with stars about his portrait; the dates of his birth and death are intertwined with symbols of his patriotic warfare and with emblems of the glorious reward hereafter, to which his deeds entitled him. Indeed, judging from the number and variety of Washington views, the English potters took pleasure in honoring the gallant and successful foe of their own Empire.

The first illustration is from the sugar bowl belonging to a deep blue tea-service, and presents Washington in Continental uniform standing upon the lawn of his estate at Mount Vernon, his favorite mount nearby held by a groom. Upon a similarly shaped tea-set of Staffordshire, Washington is presented upon the same lawn with an open scroll, doubtless the Declaration of Independence, in his hand, the columned veranda of the old mansion in the background of both sketches appearing the same as at the present day. The fact that the features of Washington accompany the portraits of Jefferson, Clinton and Lafayette upon specimens of ware made to commemorate the opening of the Erie Canal is judged by some persons proof that the potters held vague and oft-times incorrect notions of American affairs, another proof offered being "Boston" and "Tenasee" among the number of early States. But George Washington was the idol of young America, so it would seem

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but natural to link his memory with the others upon memorials of the nation's greatest enterprise.

Another Washington design which originated in the potteries of Staffordshire is known as the "States" pattern, and from the number of important circumstances it records this may be said, as was remarked of the first flag of Stars and Stripes, "to embody a whole national history." The eye is attracted first to the charming bit of landscape in the center, set in a graceful frame of scrolls, the beholder seeming to gaze out of a window upon the brilliantly illumined scene—a dignified mansion said to represent the President's House at Washington, with its well-kept lawn shaded by beautiful trees sloping, as in l'Enfant's original plan of the capital city, to the shore of the Potomac River. Two figures, a man and woman, stand upon the bank of a stream, and a small boat flying a very large flag rests upon the water. Supporting the frame upon the right hand side and gazing upon the scene it encircles, kneels a female figure crowned with a many-plumed head-dress and bearing aloft a Liberty cap, the word "Independence" appearing upon the platform beneath her. At the left stands blind-folded Justice, the decoration of the Order of the Cincinnati upon her skirt being in honor of George Washington, whose medallion portrait hangs suspended from her right hand. Flowers and fruits complete the design, and, enclosing all, a ribbon is festooned, each loop

GEORGE WASHINGTON

of which bears the name of one of the fifteen States of the Union, Kentucky and Vermont having joined the sisterhood of the original thirteen at the time the device was made; fifteen stars mark the intervening spaces of the festoons.

An illustration from a Staffordshire specimen which is reproduced in the chapter upon Lafayette presents a fanciful Tomb marked "Washington," set in a brilliant sunset-lighted landscape, and before it, in an attitude of sorrow, reclines the figure of Washington's devoted French friend.

Numerous are the portraits and eulogies of our first President which the black-printed yellow pitchers and punch bowls of Liverpool manufacture exhibit, some of the portraits being fair likenesses, others with features "leaning all awry," and suggesting the queries: "What! did the Hand then of the Potter shake?" or, "Was there malice prepense in the heart of the fashioning artist?" At the same time, the flattering sentiment ascribed to Washington by the English potters at a period coincident with extreme international bitterness, and even open warfare, are astonishing revelations of British methods of securing trade with the colonies and the infant States. The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City contains a number of ceramic likenesses of Washington, by both artists and amateurs (one painted in China, with almond-shaped eyes, hair in oriental mode and man-

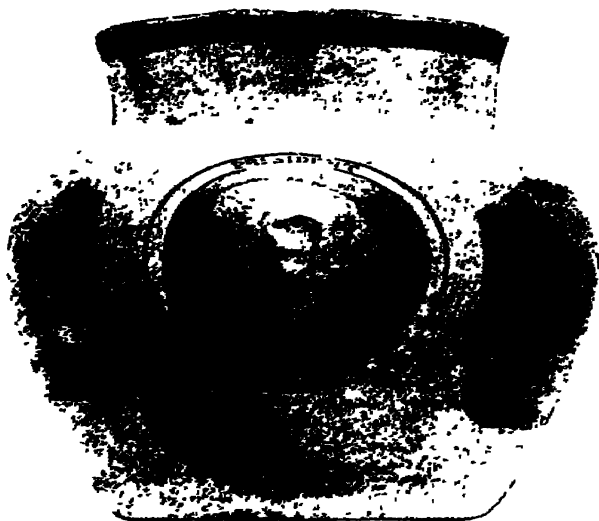
THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

darin coat!), the best known being copies of the Savage, Trumbull, Peale and Stuart portraits; the last named, the Stuart portrait with the lawn ruffles which is here reproduced, presenting the great American as we know him best and admire him most. An especially poor portrait is the next illustration, the face in profile, over which a cherub holds a wreath inclosing the word "Washington." Justice and Liberty are on either side, while Victory kneels before him offering the laurel branch. A ribbon scroll bears the names of fifteen States and shelters fifteen stars.

But—was it by reason of the secret, but suppressed, satisfaction they felt in the incident?—the designs which present Washington upon his monument or mounting to heaven upon a shaft of light, in the Apotheosis of Glory, borne aloft by winged seraphs and a choir of cherub angels, reveal the fancy of the potter-historians full and unrestrained. "Washington in Glory" we read at the top of one old pitcher, and at the bottom, "America in Tears"; a dignified delineation of the national hero, surmounted with a laurel wreath and urn, adorns the monument, with the dates of his birth and death beneath: "George Washington, Born February 22, 1732, Died December 17, 1799." Below the inscription is the Coat of Arms of the Washington family—a shield bearing five bars in chief three mullets—and the crossed swords of the dead warrior. The new Republic, repre-



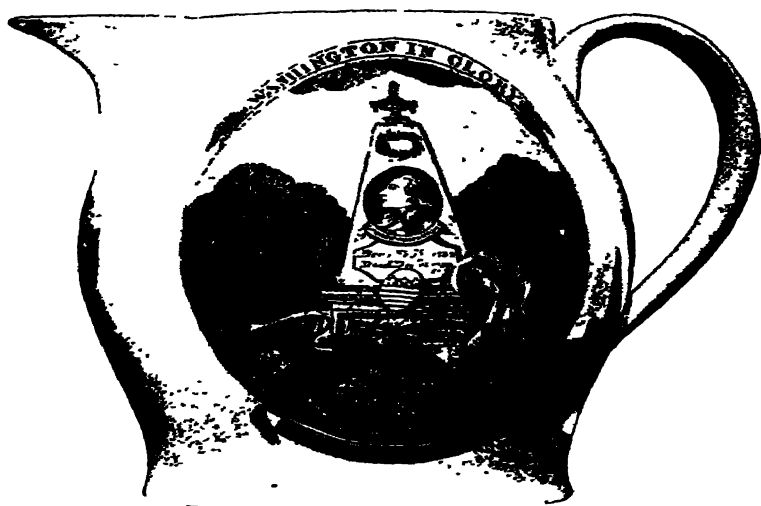
GEORGE WASHINGTON, FESTOONED WITH
NAMES OF 15 STATES
(Liverpool Pitcher)



THE STUART PORTRAIT OF WASHINGTON



SEAL OF U. S. (FRONT)
(Liverpool Pitcher)



"WASHINGTON IN GLORY"—"AMERICA IN TEARS"

GEORGE WASHINGTON

sented by a female figure, leans in sorrow upon the base of the shaft, while an eagle, also typifying America, droops his wings and head in symbol of the mourning of a nation; abundant weeping willows, without which no memorial design of the early nineteenth century was complete, lighted with streaming rays of glory from on high, form the background for the monument. Upon the front of the pitcher, under the nose, is the design of the Seal of the United States, while upon the reverse, Ceres and Pomona stand at either side of a cannon upon which an American eagle perches in attitude of proclaiming to the world the successful achievement of Washington, inscribed as: "Peace, Plenty and Independence"; an early design of the national flag is an interesting detail of the background of this decoration.

Another monument pitcher gives a crude drawing of a shaft adorned with Washington's bust, the line, "Washington in Glory" above, and below, "America in Tears," accompanied by the historic dates, while a weeping figure and weeping willow again symbolize the nation's sorrow. Still other Washington pitchers record such eulogistic legends in honor of him and of the freedom he achieved as, "First in War, First in Peace, First in Fame, First in Victory," "He is in Glory, America in Tears," "His Excellency General Washington,"

"My love is fixed,
I cannot range;

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

I like my choice
Too well to change,"

"Patria," "May Columbia flourish," "E Pluribus Unum," the following lines to Liberty:

"O Liberty! thou goddess
Heavenly bright,
Profuse of bliss,
And pregnant with delight;"

also, the design of a harp in the hands of a soldier of the United States, who is standing before Liberty, presumably assuring her, as the legend states, that the instrument is "Tun'd to Freedom for our Country."

A number of pottery devices associate the memory of Washington with that of previous or contemporary historical incidents, a pitcher of especial interest, which is reproduced and described in a former chapter, bearing what is known as the "Map" design. This decoration, in addition to its valuable map of the United States, assembles, like the "States" patterns, several important historical records, for example—Washington and Franklin are examining the territory their judgment and deeds did so much to acquire; Liberty, the goddess of their inspiration, stands by Washington's side; while History, the muse who will record their acts, looks down upon Franklin, Fame sounding a trumpet on high and holding aloft a wreath inscribed, "Washington." A very clear representation of the pine-tree flag, one of

GEORGE WASHINGTON

the earliest emblems of the Colonies (the significance of which is explained in a subsequent chapter) forms an especially valuable part of the Map device. Another Washington pitcher exhibits, on the reverse side, a female figure holding the American flag and facing two Indians, while in the background are several would-be portraits labeled, "Raleigh, Columbus, Franklin, Washington," together with the legend, "An Emblem of America."

A pitcher marked, "Proscribed Patriots," presents the portraits of Samuel Adams and John Hancock, the fiery Boston leaders of Revolutionary times, side by side in a medallion, surrounded with the following inscription, "In Memory of Washington and the Proscribed Patriots of America. Liberty, Virtue, Peace, Justice, and Equity to All Mankind." Below is the patriotic couplet,

Columbia's Sons Inspired by Freedom's Flame,
Live in the Annals of Immortal Fame.

Upon the upper part of the device may be read, "Sacred to the Memory of G. Washington, who Emancipated America from Slavery and Founded a Republic upon such Just and Equitable Principles that it will," etc. Upon another Liverpool jug, a soldier of the new nation is seen standing with his foot on the head of a British Lion, while below is his explanation of the unwonted attitude, "By Virtue and Valor we have freed our Coun-

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try, extended our Commerce, and laid the foundation of a Great Empire"—strange words to put into the mouth of one's successful foe!

A large yellow punch bowl in possession of the Connecticut Historical Society exhibits Washington in full uniform upon a battlefield, mounted upon a spirited horse, with the accompanying inscription: "His Excellency General Washington, Marshal of France, and Commander in Chief of the North American Continental Forces." It is recorded that, in order to overcome a difficulty which arose over Washington's absolute control of the united French and patriot armies in America, the Count de Rochambeau being a lieutenant-general of France and therefore only to be commanded by the King or Maréchal de France, Washington was made a French Maréchal, the French officers at Yorktown addressing him as Monsieur le Maréchal. The reverse of the bowl has the fur-cap portrait of Benjamin Franklin which is shown in a later chapter, with the legend: "By virtue and valor we have freed our Country."

Our description of the Liverpool series of Washington designs closes with the "Apotheosis," in which the great American may be seen ascending to Heaven from his tomb, somewhat after the manner of the saved in early Italian frescoes of the Resurrection. Our first President is supported by Father Time, an angel holds his hand, at the same time pointing to rays of glory which mark



GEORGE WASHINGTON
 Scroll in Hand
 (Wood)

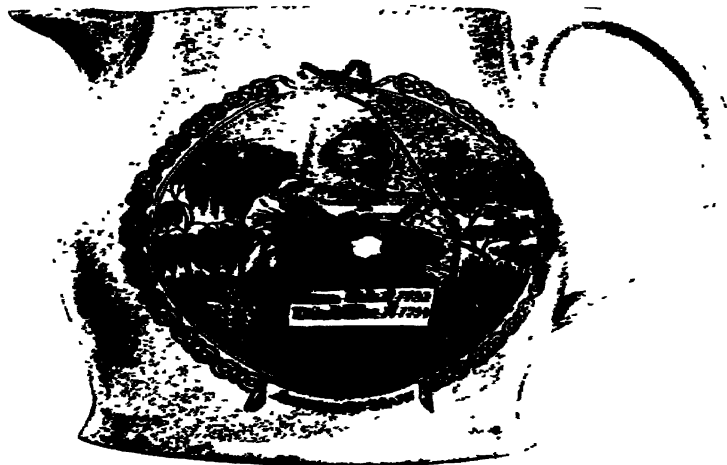


"HONOR THE BRAVE"—"THE UNION, IT
 MUST AND SHALL BE PRESERVED"

(Pitcher in the Dickins Collection, National Museum,
 Washington, D. C.)



EMBLEMS OF SUCCESS OF REVOLUTIONARY
ARMS
(Liverpool Pitcher)



WASHINGTON MONUMENT
(Liverpool Pitcher)

GEORGE WASHINGTON

the path to the upper regions, while charming winged cherubs, which would not have disgraced Raphael's hand, frame the top of the device; upon the tomb may be read, "Sacred to the Memory of Washington ob 17 December, A. D. 1799, æ 68." A fitting epitome of the fulsome praise accorded by the English potters to the memory of the great American is recorded in the oft-found expressions, "Peace and Prosperity to America," "America! Whose militia is better than standing armies," as well as in the alarming portent: "Deafness to the ear that will patiently hear, and dumbness to the tongue that will utter a calumny against the immortal Washington!"

In addition to tableware, a variety of busts, statuettes and medallions of Washington were produced both in England and in France, made of jasper and basalt, some of the last being exquisite works of art and intended for use as seals. Mirror knobs, or "Lookeing Glass Nobs," as ante-Revolutionary advertisements made mention of them, were much in evidence supporting the heavy mirrors in old-time Colonial homes, many of them being portrait heads of Washington in a cocked hat, or of Franklin with bald head and spectacles.

Several of the presidents who followed Washington likewise figure in a limited number of decorations turned out from the English potteries. "John Adams, President of the United States," is found under the portrait

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of Washington's successor in office. A "Proscribed Patriot" pitcher is described by Mrs. Earle in her delightful book, "China Collecting in America," as bearing, among others, the following inscription, descriptive of American policy at the close of the Revolution: "Peace, Commerce and Honest Friendship with all Nations, Entangling Alliance with none. Jefferson. Anno Domini 1804;" while upon another pitcher appear these stanzas to Jefferson:

"Sound, Sound the trump of Fame,
Let Jefferson's great name
Ring through the world with loud applause
As the firm friend of Freedom's cause.
Let every clime to freedom dear
Now listen with a joyfull ear.
With honest pride and manly grace
He fills the Presidential place.

"The Constitution for his guide,
And Truth and Justice by his side,
When hope was sinking in dismay,
When gloom obscured Columbia's day,
He mourn'd his country's threaten'd fate
And saved it ere it was too late."

Portraits of Jefferson also accompany those of Washington, Clinton and Lafayette upon the pottery designed to celebrate the completion of the Erie Canal. President Madison, the War President of 1812, appears upon one of a series of Liverpool pitchers illustrating that last armed conflict with Great Britain, while "Major Gen-

GEORGE WASHINGTON

eral Andrew Jackson," who fought and won the final battle of the War of 1812, and later on became President of the United States, was not overlooked by the English artists, a globose pitcher preserving a print of his features. About the year 1840, John Tams, a potter at Longton, turned out two souvenir designs, one of them in honor of General W. H. Harrison, the other, of Henry Clay. Both are portraits, the first accompanied with symbols of warfare and the words, "Hero of the Thames, 1813;" the second, with the legend, "Star of the West." The log-cabin campaign of 1840, which placed the western hero in the presidential chair, likewise furnished decorations for the potters, a log cabin with its barrel of cider by the open door, and portraits of Harrison, being printed upon punch bowls and pitchers.

American industries were likewise noted and made subject for decoration, the Salem, Massachusetts Historical Society preserving a punch bowl of Liverpool make which bears the date 1800, together with two prints representing scenes of timber-rolling and ship-building, intended no doubt to commemorate the important Colonial industry of that town. Below the prints are the lines:

"Our mountains are covered with Imperial Oak
Whose Roots like our Liberties Ages have nourish'd;
But long ere our Nation submits to the Yoke
Not a Tree shall be left on the Field where it flourish'd.

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

"Should Invasion impend, Every Tree would Descend
From the Hilltops they shaded Our Shores to defend;
For Ne'er shall the Sons of Columbia be Slaves
While the Earth bears a plant, or the Sea rolles its waves."

Brave words! which imply not only knowledge of the spirit that imbued the colonists, but acquaintance as well with the physical conditions of the American wilderness.

George Washington was fond of having china in his home, and, after the close of the War, imported ware, much of it gifts to himself and his wife, took the place of pewter upon the table at Mount Vernon. The "Cincinnati" and other sets which he owned are described in Supplementary Chapter A of this volume.

A piece of the "Martha Washington States" set of china which was decorated for, and presented to, the wife of our first President is here presented. A number of pieces of this famous set are now in the National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. Around the rim of the plate is a chain of fifteen links, each link inclosing the name of one of the first fifteen States. In the center is the interlaced monogram of Martha Washington—"M. W."—in a wreath of laurel and olive leaves, beneath it being a ribbon scroll upon which is inscribed in clearly traced letters, "Decus et tutamen ab illo." From the wreath spring rays of gold, and what at first glance appears to be a stripe around the extreme edge of the plate is in reality a gold serpent with its tail in its mouth—a symbol of eternity.



WASHINGTON ON ERIE CANAL DISH
 (Other views of this specimen may be found in Chapter XIV)
(Stevenson)



GEORGE WASHINGTON ON THE LAWN IN FRONT OF
 THE MANSION AT MOUNT VERNON
(Unknown Maker)



WEST POINT MILITARY SCHOOL

Scene of Arnold's Treason

(*Adams*)

CHAPTER IX

SCENES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

EXHIBITING the same curious lack of patriotism in their zeal for establishing commercial relations that inspired the reproduction of portraits of great Americans, the English potters made use of scenes of battle, surrender and memorial in that War of the Revolution which was of such fatal consequence to British arms. Bunker Hill, Quebec, Brooklyn Heights, Brandywine, the Treason at West Point, the Surrender at Yorktown—thrilling incidents the recital calls to mind! each one being either suggested or told in full upon the printed china.

Very clearly, from the brilliantly lighted and spirited scene upon the surface of the blue gravy-tray, may be read the familiar story of Bunker Hill. At the right rises Breed's Hill which the patriots determined to seize from the English, in the belief that their cannon once placed upon its summit would drive the English out of Boston. Upon the sides of the hill may be traced the breastworks and the rail fences banked with earth and brushwood which they hurriedly and quietly threw up

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

in the silence of the night, fearful that some sound of pick or shovel might arouse the enemy watching in the ships of the nearby harbor. Upon the summit of the hill is the redoubt, and at its base, in three divisions, the "Thin Red Line of England" is seen marching under General Gage to attack the raw patriot troops—"country boys," General Gage derisively dubbed them—who upon this spot first measured strength with the trained militia of Great Britain:

"Why, if our army had a mind to sup,
They might have eat that schoolboy army up,"

being at the beginning of the struggle for independence the popular British notion of the American recruits. Certain of victory, gay in their white breeches, scarlet coats and cocked hats, carrying shining muskets, the British advanced upon that June day in '75, to face the schoolboy army lying concealed behind the redoubt, the haystacks, the fences and the stone wall, patiently waiting for them with such deadly fire that three attempts with overwhelming forces and ammunition were necessary to dislodge them. It was such a costly victory that General Gage in his report to the English Governor wrote: ". . . the rebels are not the despicable rabble too many have supposed them to be; and I find it owing to a military spirit encouraged among them for a few years past, joined with an uncommon degree

SCENES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

of zeal and enthusiasm, that they are otherwise." In the background of the illustration, beyond the hill, the vessels in the harbor may be faintly discerned, and the flames of burning Charlestown, and, farther away still, the spires and roof-tops of Boston—vessel-rigging, spires and roof-tops, we read, all crowded upon that day with anxious spectators of the opening tragedy of the War of the Revolution.

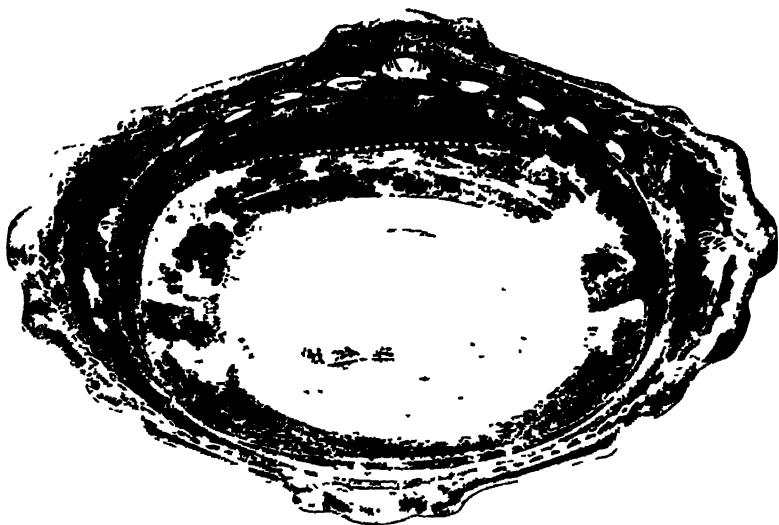
Although the scene of the Battle of Bunker Hill records a British victory, the illustration of Bunker Hill Monument, which 50 years later was erected upon the site of the battle, is a memorial of the final triumph of the patriot cause. General Lafayette, as a later chapter records, was present upon the occasion of the dedication of the monument, and, as one of the survivors of the War, he was the hero of the day. Upon Bunker Hill the patriots lost their brave leader, General Warren, and the autumn of the same year witnessed the death of another officer, General Montgomery, as he was making an attack upon Quebec, he and Arnold having heroically led a company of soldiers across the country and into Canada. Imaginary death and battle scenes in which these officers figure were printed as memorials upon Liverpool pitchers, one being inscribed, "The Death of Warren," and the other, "The Death of Montgomery." A large punch bowl in the Museum of Gloucester, Massachusetts, links their memories in the following lines,

THE BLUE-CHINA BOOK

"As he fills your rich glebs (glass)
The old peasant shall tell,
While his bosom with liberty glow,
How Warren expired,
How Montgomery fell,
And how Washington humbled your foe."

The view of New York City from Brooklyn Heights, which may be found illustrated in a previous chapter, calls to mind an important episode of the Revolutionary War which took place in the summer of 1776, a short time after the colonies had declared their independence of British rule. It was upon those wooded heights that Washington's army vainly attempted to oppose the entrance of the British forces under General Howe into New York City. In small vessels, such as those pictured floating in the harbor, Washington in the very face of the enemy took his army across the bay on a moonlight night, and entered the city just as Lord Howe and his troops were seen to occupy their former position on the heights of the Brooklyn side of the harbor. Then, northward to the heights of Harlem and farther still to the country about White Plains the patriot army marched, leaving the English officers and soldiers to settle themselves for a comfortable winter in New York.

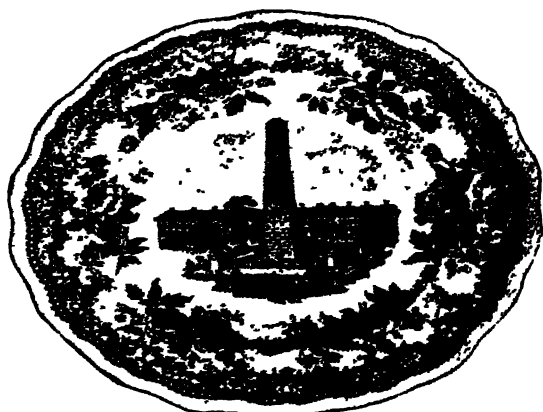
The attractive country scene, white mill buildings and drooping trees mirrored in the quiet Brandywine stream—a design of Enoch Wood, known by the border of shells and mosses—was found not far from the spot



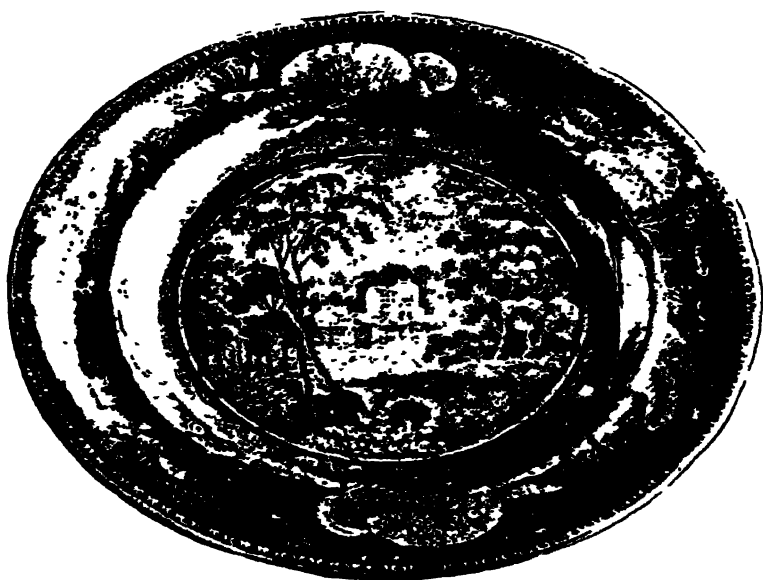
BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL
(*R. Stevenson*)



SURRENDER AT YORKTOWN
The reverse of this specimen is shown in Chapter XIII
(Copper Luster Pitcher)



BUNKER HILL MONUMENT
(*Jackson*)



GILPIN'S MILLS ON THE BRANDYWINE RIVER, NEAR
BATTLEFIELD
(*Wood*)

SCENES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

where, in the year 1777, was fought the historic battle which stained the still water with patriot blood. Washington's army was drawn up along the bank of the Brandywine engaged with a portion of the British forces, when of a sudden Howe and Cornwallis appeared upon the right flank, having led their main army far up stream, crossed it, and come down with such force upon Washington's army that Lord Howe's plans of spending another comfortable winter in America, this time in the city of Philadelphia, were assured; the gayety of the English officers that winter in the city contrasting strongly with the privations and sufferings of the patriot army at Valley Forge. The paper mill in the illustration stood on the farm of Gideon Gilpin, to whose home Lafayette was carried wounded from the field of Brandywine. It is recorded that in this mill the first machine to take the place of hand labor in the making of paper was introduced.

The same autumn the surrender of Burgoyne took place at Saratoga, a victory for the patriots which proved to be the decisive turning point in the war, as it brought France officially to the side of the colonies—an alliance commemorated in the field of ceramics by an exquisite porcelain statuette of Louis XVI and Benjamin Franklin, which is presented and described in the chapter upon Benjamin Franklin. After a disastrous defeat at Bemis Heights, General Burgoyne had retreated to Saratoga,

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where he was followed and surrounded by a superior army under General Gates, and, finding himself in a hostile and wilderness country far from his base of supplies, there remained nothing for him but surrender.

Then occurred the great Treason of the War, the attempt of its commanding officer, Benedict Arnold, to deliver to the enemy West Point, the key to the line of forts situated along the Hudson River, and thus to end forever the chances of independence for the colonies. The excellent view of the old fortress presents it as it appeared not many years after 1780, when Arnold had command—low stone buildings forming a line along the ridge of the mountain, taller hills rising beyond, and the Hudson flowing below. Upon the river bank may be distinguished the very spot where, in the darkness of a September night, Major André came ashore, met the traitor by appointment, and received from him the incriminating papers which later on were found upon him as he was attempting to pass to the English lines; their evidence sending the spy to his death, and Arnold to a more congenial home in England.

Again, one marvels at the nineteenth century English artists' lack of patriotic sensibility as he examines the evidence upon the jug of glowing luster which portrays the final scene of humiliation to British arms—the surrender of the sword of Charles, Earl Cornwallis, at Yorktown on October 19, 1781. This surrender, one of

SCENES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

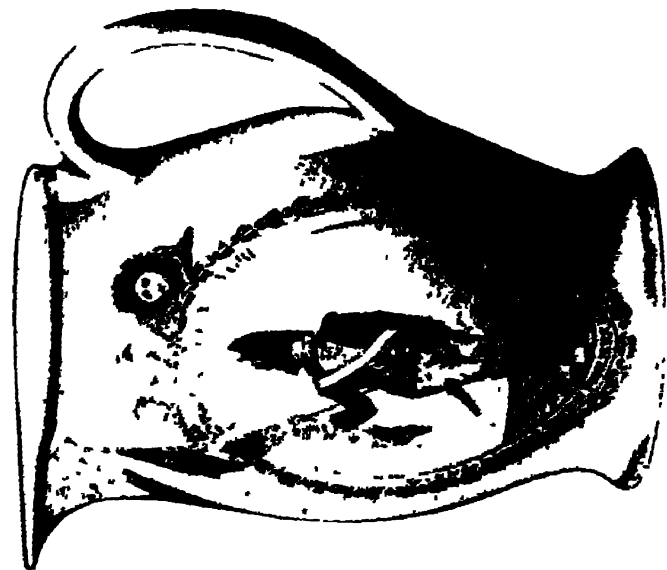
the famous surrenders which History records, was an event of world importance, putting an end, by its disheartening effect upon English opinion, to the Revolutionary War and paving the way to peace. In his use of military tactics which resulted in the surrender, Washington is said to have equaled Napoleon in his famous Ulm campaign. Marching his army all the way from the Hudson River to Virginia—a distance of 400 miles—in twenty-eight days, Washington joined the army under General Lafayette which had recently suffered defeat at Cornwallis' hands, thus massing about twice the number of the enemy's forces who had gone into Yorktown. At once the patriot army surrounded the city, for three weeks laid siege to it, until at last, the looked-for reinforcements not being able to reach Cornwallis, the English surrendered—soldiers, seamen, cannon, muskets, ammunition, supplies and clothing, besides frigates and transports; the army, it is recorded marching out to the humiliating notes of the old English tune, "The World Turned Upside Down." In the illustration, two groups of officers appear face to face, Washington and Lafayette at the head of the patriots, Washington receiving the sword from the hand of General O'Hara, as Lord Cornwallis refused to be present and take his part in the scene of humiliation. Old records say that at the time of the surrender the band struck up "Yankee Doodle," so angering the British soldiers

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that, as they laid down their swords they broke them in pieces. The reverse of the jug, which is reproduced in another chapter, bears a medallion portrait of General Lafayette, crowned with laurel.

During the night following the eventful scene recorded upon the luster pitcher, a messenger rode out from the city of Yorktown bearing the stirring news of surrender. At sunrise, he reached the city of Philadelphia—and not many minutes thereafter, a German watchman on his rounds of the quiet streets might have been heard calling to the sleeping citizens: "Past three o'clock—and Lord Cornwallis is taken!"

With the assurance of independence came the establishment throughout the Union of a number of companies of militia, one of them, known as the Boston Fusileers, becoming of such widespread fame as to be noticed by the English potters, who printed a reproduction of one of its members upon a set of commemorative pitchers. There he stands arrayed in the uniform of his company, a flag of Massachusetts in his hand, while above his head is the motto, presumably of the Order, "Aut Vincere aut Mori"; below may be read the inscription, "Success to the Independent Fusileer, Incorporated July 4, 1789, America Forever." The reverse of the pitcher presents Liberty, Justice and Peace, and the motto, "United We Stand, Divided We Fall," together with other figures emblematic of Agriculture, Trade and



THE BOSTON FUSILIER

(Liverpool Pitcher)



ARMS OF NEW JERSEY
(Mayer)



ARMS OF PENNSYLVANIA
(Mayer)

SCENES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Commerce—the design as a whole typifying the happy results which were achieved by the long struggle for independence in the great War of the Revolution under the leadership of General Washington.

CHAPTER X

EMBLEMS OF THE NEW REPUBLIC AND STATES

IN the decoration of a number of Staffordshire pieces, either in the border or as a detail of the design it frames, is the figure of an eagle. Oft-times a flag, bearing stars and stripes numbering either thirteen or fifteen, flutters from a vessel's mast, frames a hero's portrait or drapes his tomb; and a rare and valuable series of plates illustrate the Arms of the original thirteen States.

Emblems have always played an interesting part in the history of nations. It may be recalled how in ancient times the Roman legions marched to conquest under eagle-adorned banners, how wars were waged for the red and the white roses, and how the Turk fought always under the figure of the crescent. Familiar to-day, among the many devices of kingdoms and of empires, are the lilies of France, the lion and crosses of England, the eagles of Germany and of Austria. Many and varied, too, were the emblems which in the course of the centuries floated over the land of America. Previous illustrations have shown Columbus bringing the banner of Spain, and the Pilgrim Fathers the colors of

EMBLEMS OF THE NEW REPUBLIC

England; Canada long flew the lilies of France; and the old fort on Manhattan, before it spread to the breeze the Stars and Stripes, bore aloft first the Dutch and then the English ensign.

During the Colonial and Revolutionary periods, flags of various colors displaying devices other than the English emblem to which the colonists owed allegiance were made use of. The colors blue, red, and yellow and white were combined in patterns or stripes, the sketch of a pine tree together with the motto "Liberty" or the legend "An Appeal to Heaven" appeared upon several of the flags, while others bore the Liberty-tree in the center of the field and the words, "An Appeal to God." In one of the great historical mural paintings to be seen upon the Rotunda of the Capitol at Washington the Colonial troops are represented marching under a red flag emblazoned with a cross and a pine tree. Another Colonial flag is elsewhere pictured flying an anchor and the word "HOPE," while still others, the words "Liberty and Union." Upon the "Map" Liverpool pitcher which is presented in a previous chapter may be seen a sketch of a pine tree flag. The most popular device, however, to be displayed upon Colonial flags was a rattlesnake coiled and ready to strike, together with the warning, "Don't Tread On Me," the rattles numbering thirteen, the number of the colonies, and, likewise typical of the colonies, each rattle distinct and at the same time joined to the

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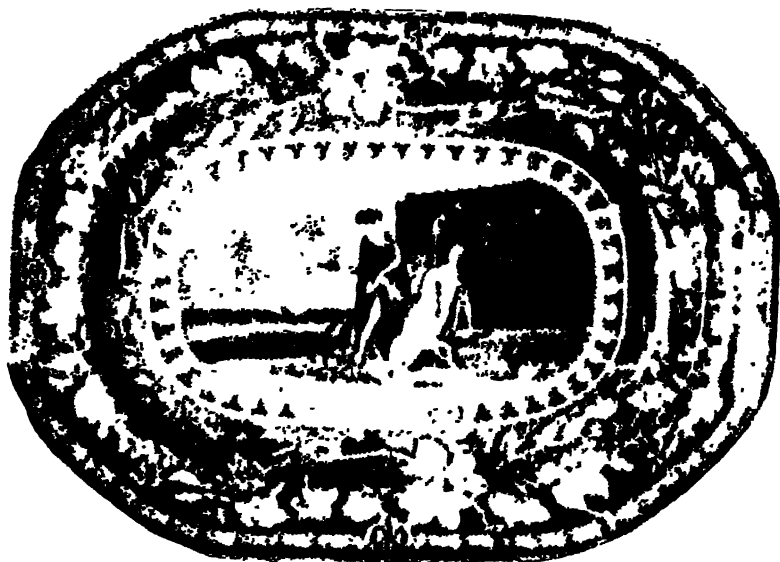
others in defensive union. Upon one rattlesnake flag the tongue of the serpent was represented about to strike at the English emblems, the crosses of Saint George and Saint Andrew, while still another banner flaunted the challenge, "Liberty or Death."

Previous to the adoption of the Stars and Stripes by the new Republic, the emblems of the pine tree and the serpent were also intertwined upon flags flown by the vessels of the American navy—an act of such audacity that it brought forth from an English journal the following comment: "A strange flag has lately appeared in our seas, bearing a pine tree with the portraiture of a rattle snake coiled up at its roots, with these daring words, 'DON'T TREAD ON ME.' We learn that the vessels bearing this flag have a sort of commission from a society of people at Philadelphia calling themselves the Continental Congress." From the character of the devices chosen by the colonists to represent them, it is not difficult to conclude that the decision to secure for themselves the blessings of Liberty and Union were present in the popular mind long before the actual struggle for them was undertaken.

When the War of the Revolution was at last concluded and the American people no longer were required to display the hated British ensign, one of the foremost considerations of the new Republic was to choose fitting emblems with which to signal its entrance into the family



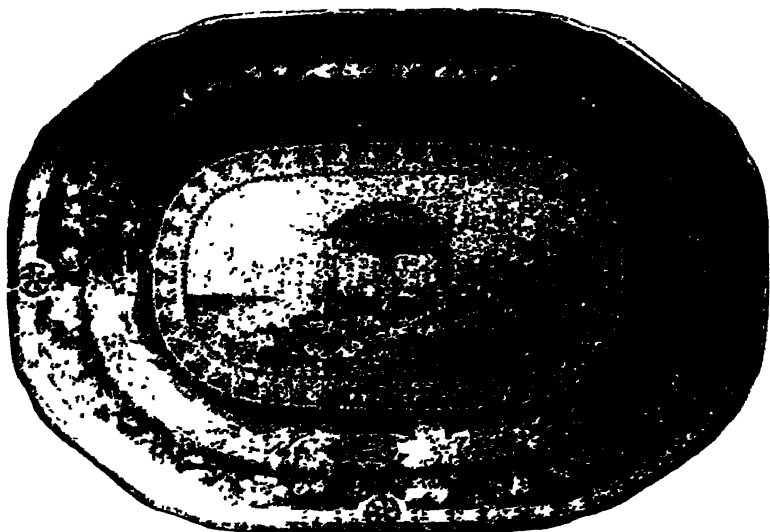
ARMS OF RHODE ISLAND
(Mayer)



ARMS OF NORTH CAROLINA
(Mayer)



ARMS OF MARYLAND
(Mayer)



ARMS OF GEORGIA
(Mayer)

EMBLEMS OF THE NEW REPUBLIC

of nations. And, as Staffordshire potters were at that period manufacturing tableware for the American market, the novel designs were naturally made use of for decoration. It is to be regretted that the emblems were not reproduced in the glowing hues of the originals, but in blue alone, the favorite color then in use.

“O glorious flag! Red, white and blue
Bright emblem of the pure and true;
O glorious group of clustering stars!
Ye lines of light, ye crimson bars!”

Such is the flag which, on June 14, 1777, the American Congress, in adopting the following Resolution: “Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation,” voted should proclaim the United States of America.

Whence sprang the notion of the stars and stripes which so happily represent the Republic? One historian declares that the stripes were borrowed from the great-coats of the Continental soldiers, who, minus uniforms, made use of stripes to distinguish the different grades; others affirm that the Dutch flag, whose stripes symbolize their own union against foreign oppression, furnished the inspiration. A more popular belief is, however, that the Stars and Stripes were taken from the Coat of Arms of George Washington, he who gave to the

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colonies the freedom of which the emblem is now a symbol.

The flag of the United States, a patriotic statesman declared, is "a whole national history." In its thirteen stripes may be numbered the thirteen colonies; the colors red and white are tokens of that daring spirit and of that purity of motive which achieved the Union; and the stars, thirteen in number upon the original banner, uniform in shape and size, typify the likeness of the several States, and, grouped upon the blue canopy of heaven, they represent the strength and oneness of the young Republic. George Washington ordered the first flag made, taking a sketch of it to the little upholstery shop of Mrs. Ross in Philadelphia, where for many years "Betsey" Ross continued its manufacture.

The flag flying thirteen stars and thirteen stripes was in use until the year 1791, when Vermont and Kentucky joined the Union, and trouble arose. How were the new States to figure on the flag? A new Act of Congress was passed by which, "to keep the citizens of those states in good humor," as one statesman argued, two stars were added to those already on the field, and the stripes were increased to fifteen. The flag of fifteen stars and fifteen stripes may sometimes be found upon pieces of Staffordshire pottery, a few specimens (the "Martha Washington States plate" and the "States" platter, for example) naming the fifteen States of the Union, Vermont and

EMBLEMS OF THE NEW REPUBLIC

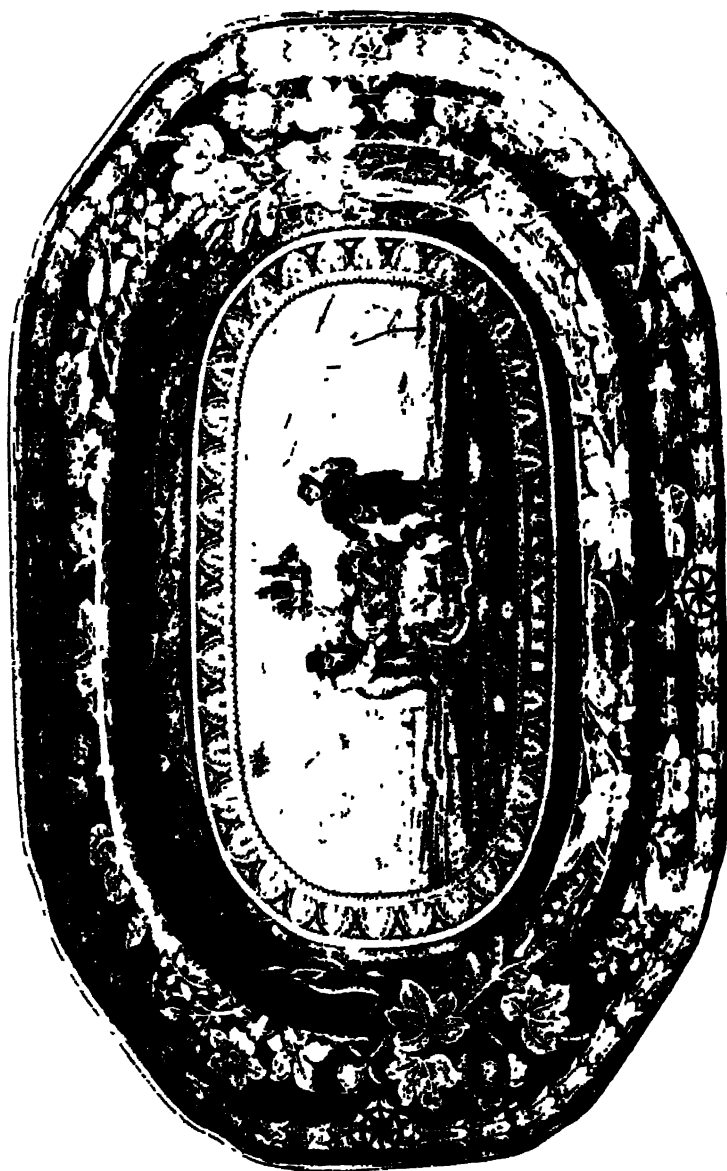
Kentucky being among the number. After a few years, Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana and Indiana came into the sisterhood of the States, and the subject of the flag came up anew. "We might go on adding and altering the flag for one hundred years to come," complained a weary statesman. It was at the time of this perplexity that the present flag, exhibiting thirteen stripes alternate red and white to represent the original thirteen colonies, one star to be added to the field upon the admission into the Union of each new State, was adopted. At the present time, the star spangled banner flings forty-eight stars to the breeze.

The new-born Republic required a national Seal as well as a flag, and tentative designs for the great Seal of the United States were submitted by Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Franklin went to the Bible for his inspiration and proposed Moses lifting his wand and dividing the Red Sea, Pharaoh and his chariot being overwhelmed by the waters. Adams favored a classical subject—Hercules resting upon his club after his labors (no doubt of forming the Union) were ended. Jefferson suggested that the children of Israel in the Wilderness might aptly represent the new nation in the wilderness of the West, adding to his design the motto, "E Pluribus Unum." Chosen committees proposed Liberty (a female figure) with stars and stripes, warriors, etc. The Seal finally adopted by Con-

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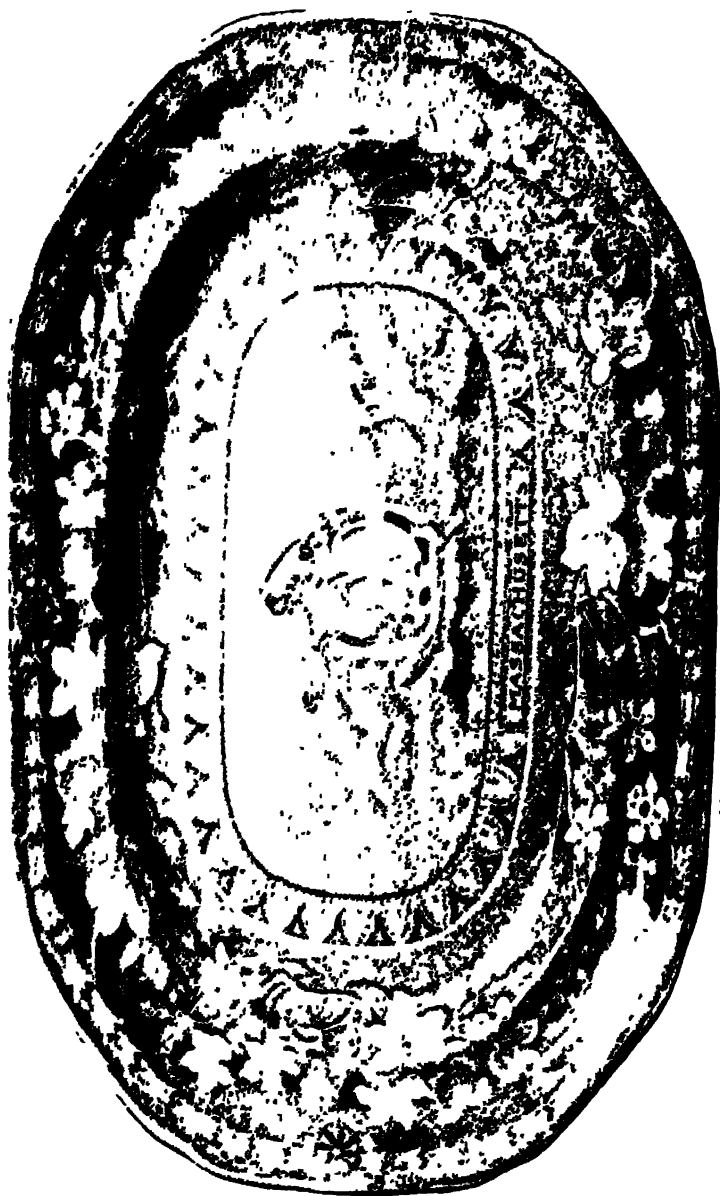
gress, however—an American, or bald-headed eagle upon whose breast an escutcheon bearing the Stars and Stripes of the flag is displayed—is quite unlike any of the proffered suggestions. One of the eagle's talons holds an olive branch, while the other grasps a bundle composed of thirteen arrows, branch and arrows denoting peace and war. A scroll inscribed *E Pluribus Unum*, meaning one government of many parts or states, floats from the eagle's beak, and thirteen stars appear in the crest. No figures are pictured at the sides of the device in the position of supporters, it having been no doubt deemed out of place for a nation choosing to be represented by that powerful bird to require any support other than its own native strength.

Several adaptations of the design of the Seal of the United States may be found in the illustrations. It would appear that the English designers oft-times took liberties with the new emblem, for the American eagle may be found perched upon the shield with the arrows and motto underneath him, or, with the shield used as a background for the decoration; in one design, entitled simply "America," the national bird is figured erect upon a globe, the shield upon his breast, and the arrows and olive branch in his talons. His attitude, wings raised and beak open as if in angry dispute over his right to the portion of the globe he stands upon, may possibly be a sly joke of the English artist. A more exact copy of



ARMS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

(Mayer)



ARMS OF MASSACHUSETTS

(Mayer)

EMBLEMS OF THE NEW REPUBLIC

the great Seal may be seen upon the front of a Liverpool jug in a previous chapter, displaying "Washington in Glory."

A series of decorations reproducing the Arms of the States were printed by T. Mayer of Stoke-upon-Trent, and, framed in an attractive border of trumpet-flower sprays, surviving specimens are among the most highly prized pieces of old Staffordshire. One device, the Arms of New Hampshire, has never been found, search in this country and in England thus far failing to bring a specimen to light. It is believed to have been printed along with the others, all pieces of it, however, having been destroyed. In the "Arms" devices the emblems of Justice and Independence and the colors red, white and blue were frequently made use of, the States evidently wishing to embody in their individual Seals emblems of the principles for which the entire nation stood. A number of the States likewise incorporated symbols of their own particular life and activities.

As early as the year 1647, the colony of Rhode Island provided that the "Seale of the Province shall be an ancker." Later on, the word HOPE was added, and the design encircled with a scroll, the color of the anchor and motto being blue, the scroll red and field white. The emblem was no doubt adopted as a symbol of the freedom, both civil and religious, in which the faith of

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the early settlers of Rhode Island, supported by the spirit of Hope, was so firmly anchored.

The first Seal of the colony of Maryland, still in use, bears the Arms of her founder, Lord Baltimore. The design which the potters made use of, however, is a copy of the seal which was adopted in the year 1794 and displayed for a period of twenty-three years only. In a blaze of light stands a female figure of Justice holding aloft the scales of her office in one hand, while the other grasps an olive branch. The horn of plenty at the base of the design symbolized the fertility of Maryland's soil, and the ship at sea her extensive commerce.

The device of the Seal of Georgia adopted in the year 1798, is composed of three columns typifying Wisdom, Justice and Moderation—virtues which support the arch of the Constitution and uphold the laws of the young Republic. By the side of one of the columns stands a man with drawn sword—mute proclamation that the army of Georgia is ever ready to defend the Constitution of the Union.

Connecticut adopted as her Seal three grapevines laden with fruit, upon a white field, together with the motto, *Qui transtulit sustinet*. The design was selected as a memorial of the three plantations of Hartford, Windsor and Weathersfield which formed the original colony, and, as the motto explains, it was a witness of the pious faith of the settlers of Connecticut in the divine

EMBLEMS OF THE NEW REPUBLIC

assurance that "He who transplanted the vines was able also to sustain them."

North Carolina's emblems are the Goddess of Liberty and the Greek goddess of the harvest, Ceres—symbols of North Carolina's faithfulness to the Constitution and of the natural productiveness of her soil. Liberty bears a wand topped with a liberty cap, while in her lap lies the scroll of the Declaration of Independence. Standing by her side, Ceres holds in one hand three ears of corn and in the other a cornucopia, or horn of plenty, overflowing with the fruits and flowers in which the State abounds.

South Carolina also chose an emblem typical of her soil—a single palmetto tree. From its branches hang two shields and at its root are ten spears; if to their total the tree itself is added, the result is the number thirteen. An English oak tree, pictured with roots above ground and branches lopped, lies at the foot of the palmetto—the power of England broken by the vigor of the young republic, the lopped branches signifying that the American colonies have deserted the parent stalk.

Pennsylvania's Arms embody three of the State's activities: a sheaf of wheat for her agriculture, a plow for her husbandry and a ship for her commerce. Over all, forming the crest, a bald eagle grasps in his beak a streamer bearing the words, Virtue, Liberty and Independence; the supporters are two horses.

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The Arms of New Jersey are three plows upon a white shield, Liberty and Ceres on either side as supporters and a horse's head the crest—Industry, Plenty and Independence.

New York, like Connecticut, went to her own beautiful landscape for a design, her Arms picturing the broad Hudson River flowing between level banks, two passing vessels, and, in the distance, the sun setting behind the Highlands. Above the shield is a globe surmounted with a heraldic eagle: Liberty stands on one side, her foot upon an overturned crown; while on the other side blinded Justice holds in either hand a sword and scales—tokens of deliverance from an oppressive royal yoke. Below the shield is *Excelsior*.

Massachusetts, possibly in memory of her first inhabitants, chose an Indian dressed in shirt and moccasins to represent her. At one side of the Indian's head is a star, one of the United States of America, and the crest is an arm grasping a sword. The motto, *Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietam*, is one of the following lines written two centuries ago by Algernon Sydney in an album of the Public Library of Copenhagen, Denmark:

Manus haec inimica tyrannis,
Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietam.

The English translation is:

This hand, the rule of tyrants to oppose,
Seeks with the sword fair freedom's soft repose.



ARMS OF CONNECTICUT
(Mayer)



ARMS OF NEW YORK
(Mayer)